EVENING EDITION

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ALL COUNTER-DRIVES BY SOVIET REPULSED IN WINTRY STRUGGLE

Furious Thrusts by Moscow Forces Prove Futile Against German Defenses

ARMORED TRAIN SMASHED

Heavy Battles Raging in Don-Volga Sector—404 Tanks Blasted in 10 Days

Domei

BERLIN, December 23.—German forces in the northern Terek sector completely crushed a Soviet counter-offensive, capturing more than 400 men and demolishing and enemy armored train, the noonday communique of the German High Command revealed today.

The same communique, covering other developments on the Eastern front, stated:

"All Soviet counter-offensives in the middle zone between the Don and Volga rivers and in the Stalingrad sector were smashed by the Wehrmacht with heavy damage suffered by the Soviets.

"Furious battles are raging in the sector along the middle stretches of the Don River. German forces positioned around Voronezh penetrated the Soviet position facing them across a frozen stream. In the ensuing battle they shattered many enemy pillboxes. The Soviets, once repulsed, came back in a counter-attack, but were routed again.

"Soviet forces in the Veliki-Luki sector attacked the German position several times, but were driven back each time with serious losses."

404 Soviet Tanks Smashed
By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Japan Times Advertiser)

SHANGHAI, December 23.—In the Don River area battle in the Eastern Front, German land and air forces have dealt serious damages to the Soviet forces, it was stated in an official announcement given out by the German army yesterday. The German tank corps operating in the middle position in that battle alone had destroyed 404 Soviet tanks in the past 10 days, it was also announced.

According to German information, Soviet forces during the last few days have been taking the offensive using tank units and have succeeded in breaking into the German defense line, but the German forces have prevented further advance of the Soviet troops by sending reserve forces causing many casualties among the enemy.

Of this great battle in the Don River mid-stream area, accurate reports have not yet been received from the front and consequently more time is necessary before commenting upon the result of the battle. Villages which are reported as having been taken by the Soviet forces seem to be positions reached by the Soviet vanguards but such Soviet reports are not to be taken seriously.

This great offensive made by the Soviet army was not unexpected to the Germans, who had already known the intention of the Soviet forces previously and thus the German forces had taken proper steps to meet the attack.

The mastery of the air in that district is still in the hands of the Reich forces and there is no room for doubt in this respect even from the standpoint of the number of planes and the superiority of the pilots.

FRANCO TO VISIT PORTUGAL

Spanish Chief of State to Strengthen Ties With Lisbon

Domei

STOCKHOLM, December 23.—General Francisco Franco, Chief of State of Spain, will shortly visit Lisbon to confer with the Portuguese authorities, it is reported from Lisbon.

The object of his visit to Lisbon is reported to be for further conferring with the Portuguese officials as regards means for strengthening the cooperation according to the basic understanding for forming the Iberian bloc reached between Spanish Foreign Minister General Francisco G. Jordana and Portuguese Premier Dr. Antonio de Oliveira Salazar. However, this report has not yet been confirmed by the Portuguese authorities.

Giraud, French Rebel War Chief, Disappears From African Scene

Eisenhower's Opposition to Pet Strategy Seen Probable Reason—Growing Yankee Arrogance Adds To Dissatisfaction in Enemy Camp

Yomiuri-Hochi

BERLIN, December 22.—General Henri Giraud, Commander of the Army of the French puppet regime in North Africa, has suddenly disappeared from North Africa, and various rumors about his movement are being circulated.

French radio broadcast reported last night that General Giraud refused to cooperate with Major-General Dwight Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the American Forces in North Africa, and left Morocco, it is reported from Vichy.

General Giraud, it is reported, insisted that Bizerta should be immediately attacked before the arrival of German and Italian reinforcements, but Major-General Eisenhower opposed this plan demanding that the attack on German-Italian troops should not be commenced until the arrival of British and American transports so that there would be no chance of a defeat. This difference in opinion is said to have been the cause for the sudden disappearance of General Giraud from North Africa.

At any rate, the arrogance of the high officers of the American forces in North Africa has greatly irritated the British and French officers and men, and this dissatisfaction with the attitude of American officers has seriously affected the Tunisian campaign. The confrontation in North Africa among officers of the British, French and American forces is being keenly watched.

U.S. Troops Hated

TANGIERS.—The growing indignation of the populations of Casablanca and Rabat over the conduct of American occupation troops toward both French and Arab women in these cities has compelled the U.S. command to issue orders forbidding American soldiers to leave their barracks, according to reports received.

The confiscation by the American authorities of all hotels, resulting in the eviction of French guests, and their incredibly tactless behavior in general have done anything but enhance their popularity.

Jewish money-changers are doing a thriving business, buying up as many American dollars as they can for the purpose of carrying out all sorts of shady transactions.

At Casablanca the windows of numerous houses occupied by Spanish residents were smashed by Spanish Communists released by the American authorities.

The lack of organization displayed by the Americans is responsible for the slow pace at which mobilization of Moroccan reservists is proceeding. The U.S. authorities have so far been unable to furnish recruits with uniforms and other equipment and are therefore awaiting the arrival of supplies from the United States.

BRITAIN IS WORRIED BY AXIS CONFERENCE

Fears Important Strategy Discussed Between Reich-Italian War Chiefs

Yomiuri-Hochi

STOCKHOLM, December 23.—The British are seriously concerned about the effect of the German-Italian-French conference at the German Headquarters and also of the formation of an Iberian bloc by Spain and Portugal as the result of the visit of Spanish Foreign Minister General Francisco G. Jordana to Lisbon.

Particularly, the British authorities are concerned over, the fact that General Field-Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, Chief of the German High Command, and General Ugo Cavallero, Chief of the Italian Army, had joined the conference and discussed important military affairs.

On the other hand, the British forces recently have been greatly strengthening the defense of Gibraltar, and while this is regarded as military preparations to face any lightning attack by the Axis forces, it is also said to have been undertaken to threaten Spain. Gibraltar is now constantly protected by scout planes day and night, and furthermore, the British aircraft carrier, Argus, two cruisers and a large number of destroyers have recently entered the port of Gibraltar, while the fort defense corps have been greatly augumented.

In such a manner, the British are preparing for any future movement of Spain and Portugal, and are therefore increasing pressure on these Iberian nations.

HAIFA-TRIPOLI RAILWAY CIRCUIT NEWLY OPENED

Route Via Beirut Is First Shore Line Built; Reported Made For Military Use

Domei

STOCKHOLM, December 23.—A new railway line running from Haifa, Palestine, to Tripoli, Syria, via Beirut was recently constructed and opened to traffic on December 20, it is reported by the Times correspondent at Cairo.

Formerly the railway line connecting Palestine and Syria passed through the interior region. The new line is the first shore line, and it is reported that it was constructed for military purposes.

In the construction of the new railway line, several sabotages were committed by workers but they were suppressed before reaching any serious stage.

AXIS AIR FORCES SINK 6 SHIPS OFF ALGERIA

Two Large Transports Set Afire, One Submarine Bombed —Foes Repulsed Everywhere

Domei

ROME, December 23.—The Italian High Command announced today that in the past two days, the Axis air forces attacked a group of convoyed enemy transports in the Algerian waters and sank five large-size merchant ships and one speed boat.

2 Ships Set Afire

Domei

BERLIN, December 23.—The German air force over waters off Bougie, Algeria, set ablaze two enemy transports of 10,000 to 15,000-ton class and also bombed a submarine, the German High Command announced today.

In the same announcement, the general war development in North Africa was covered in the following way:

In Tunisia, Axis forces annihilated one enemy unit. Enemies in the hilly terrain of Tunisia came out with their offensive against Axis positions, but were repulsed with heavy losses.

Meanwhile, the communique added Axis air units staged nocturnal air raids on Bone Harbor and Algiers.

It also stated that British warplanes, in their attempt to raid the northwestern part of Germany, lost two planes in air combat with the Luftwaffe.

Axis Makes Preparations

Domei

LISBON, December 23.—Every preparation seems to have been made for augmenting the strength of the Axis forces in the Tunisian front.

Every day, Axis forces are landing several thousands of troops on the Tunisian shore, and also a large number of tanks and motor cars. Particularly tanks brought to the Tunisian front are reported to be very superior in armament.

A B.B.C. correspondent at the Tunisian front reported that Major-General Dwight Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. army in North Africa, is planning an offensive action together with the British 1st Army under Lieutenant-General K. M. Anderson as the left wing, the Amercian troops as the central force and the French rebel troops as the right wing, but this plan is greatly hindered by the constant bombing of the supply lines by the German air force.

POLICE IN PESHAWAR CLASH WITH INDIANS; GUNFIRE EXCHANGED

Attack Initiated by Red Shirt Party Members—Many Casualties Reported

BOMBAY ALSO SEES FIGHT

Calcutta Authorities, Infuriated By Nippon Raid, Arrest 145 Citizens

Yomiuri-Hochi

BANGKOK, December 23.—Despite the frantic measures of suppression adopted by the Britain-India Government authorities, anti-British movements throughout India are becoming more serious, it was revealed by information reaching here from various parts of India.

In the frontier Province of Peshawar, Red Shirt Party members attacked the police station, exchanging fire with the policemen. Many casualties were suffered by both sides in this clash.

In Bombay, too, a fierce armed clash occurred between the Indian masses and the policemen, who fired upon the demonstrators killing three Indians and injuring 10 others. Another 40 Indians were arrested. However, five policemen were killed and over 30 were injured by the infuriated masses.

According to another report, some Indian patriots in Ahmedabad threw bombs at government buildings in several parts of the city. The policemen on the spot failed to arrest the culprits who departed shouting, "Drive away the Britishers."

145 Patriots Arrested

Yomiuri-Hochi

LISBON, December 22.—Infuriated as the result of the Imperial Air Force's first bombing of Calcutta on Sunday night, the authorities there arrested 145 citizens soon after the raid, it is reported by a dispatch here from New Delhi.

According to the dispatch, severe damage was inflicted on military establishment, with the airfield receiving the most damage.

It is also reported that the authorities in Chittagong are contemplating to move various military establishment there.

Trouble Over India
By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Japan Times Advertiser)

BUENOS AIRES, December 22.—The dispatch to India of the former American Ambassador to Italy William Philipps, as President Roosevelt's special envoy, is now being taken as a sure sign of the strained relations in the Anglo-American camp, despite all assertions to the contrary by United States leaders, especially by Roosevelt himself.

The American President, it is reported, stated in his press interview on December 11, that Philipps, did not carry any presidential message to the Indian Government or to its people. This remark, however, cannot be taken at its face value even in Britain.

On December 14, a London dispatch quoted Philipps to have declared that he had an important mission in India. He was reported to have said. "My mission in India is more important than that of Colonel Louis Johnson who, as Roosevelt's envoy, accompanied Britain's envoy Sir Stafford Cripps to India."

Must Be Remedied

Although Britain is trying hard to make the world believe in the domestic nature of its Indian problem, the United States does not accept this interpretation. The latter is of the view that if the problem remains unsolved any longer, it will prove to be a serious factor in lowering the morale of the peoples of Britain, America and their satellites. The situation in India, according to American opinion, cannot be left unattended for long due to the following reasons:

1. The fact that the much-vaunted Atlantic Charter does not benefit the Indians at all, will finally lead Chungking and other minor members of the Anglo-Saxon camp to doubt the sincerity of what has been promised by Britain and America.

2. The Indian problem will prove a serious handicap in the formation of an effective wartime structure by the people of the United States. They will be gradually forced to discredit everything pronounced by the British Government, expecially its Con-

(Continued on Page 2)

Ground Crew at Work

Shown above is a ground crew of a certain Nippon air unit hard at the task of sprucing their charge for the next flight, somewhere in the Philippines. (Passed by the War Ministry)

BATTLE IN N. AFRICA FAVORS REICH, ITALY

Outlook Good as Axis Secures Commissary Lines in Mediterranean Sea Area

Yomiuri-Hochi

ROME, December 22.—With important commissary lines in the Mediterranean Sea having been secured by the Italo-German forces, the outlook of the war situation in North Africa is definitely in favor of the Axis Powers.

To all indications, the warfare in the Mediterranean will have a serious bearing on the future development of the current European War. While the offensive by the Axis forces is now being directed mainly to the Eastern Front, the Anglo-American forces in North Africa have recently intensified their activities and the situation in the Iberian Peninsula, Southern France and Turkey has become ever more serious.

The British and American fighting services in North Africa have been planning to squeeze the Axis forces from the east and west respectively, while the Italo-German forces there have been waiting for the time when the enemy's commissary lines are prolonged and consequently his fighting strength is weakened.

Both opposing armies have strived to secure their respective strategic plans and now the general situation has entered a stage when real offensive operations can be launched.

In view of these conditions, one can surmise that the success or failure in securing commissary lines will decide the outcome of the war in this region. Under the present circumstances, the Axis side is holding supremacy over the enemy forces in this particular respect.

Axis Holds Supremacy

The Axis forces were intent on pressing upon the British forces concentrated in West Asia and Egypt and also on controlling the Mediterranean line leading through Crete Island and Derna in Libya. As the enemy forces later came to hold numerical superiority in the Egyptian Front, the Axis forces laid more stress on blockading the passage of the enemy convoys in the Mediterranean.

With Tunis having been firmly secured by the Axis and also the commissary line from Sicily to Bizerta held by the hands of the Axis forces, Britain's line of supply leading to Derna has become defunct and consequently the rule over Libya by the British forces has been reduced almost to nil. If, in addition to this, the Axis forces can prevent the enemy from taking Tripoli, the strategical conditions will turn in the favor of the Axis.

Thus the Axis camp has maintained supremacy over strategical keypoints in the current African campaign so far conducted. Tripoli, Tunis and Sicily, which form a vital strategical triangle, must be secured firmly by the Axis.

In the meantime, the Axis forces, employing air force and submarines are daily attacking the enemy commissary lines in Algeria and

(Continued on Page 2)

81st Imperial Diet Ready for Work; Formation Completed This Morning

The 81st session of the Imperial Diet, the fourth to be called since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, was convened this morning, with the opening ceremony scheduled to be held Saturday, December 26.

The members of the House of Peers assembled at 9 a.m., and immediately elected the chiefs of the various sections. The formation of the House of Peers was then notified to the Government and the House of Representatives.

The members of the House of Representatives also met at 9 a.m. Tokuju Akama, member from the first district from Toyama Prefecture, who was elected at a recent bye-election, was introduced to the members, and then the House elected its section chiefs. The House of Representatives thereupon reported to the Government and the House of Peers its formation.

With the formation of the 81st Imperial Diet completed, both Houses adjourned for the day.

LISBON IRED BY R.A.F. FLYING OVER PORTUGAL

Says 14 Lockheeds Were Headed for Gibraltar—Switzerland Also Protests to London

Domei

LISBON, December 23.—At about 2 p.m. today, 14 Lockheed bombers of the British air force passed over Portuguese territory flying toward Gibraltar, it is reported here.

Already in the past, the Portuguese Government had protestd to the British Government on the flying of British planes over the territory of Portugal, but Britain has disregarded it committing the same violation time and time again.

Domei

LISBON, December 23.—The Swiss Minister at London, according to instructions from his home Government, submitted a strong protest to the British Government on the frequent violation of Swiss territory by British planes, it is reported from London.

QUAKE CASUALTY REVEALED

1,000 Killed, 3,000 Injured in Turkey—Destitutes Aided

Domei

ISTANBUL, December 23.—One thousand persons were killed and 3,000 were injured by the great earthquake that rocked the Northern Anatolia district of Turkey, the Turkish Government announced today.

The Government has dispatched troops to the earthquake area to give first aid to the people, who lost their houses and belongings by the fire that immediately started after the quake.

U.S. TO RATION BUTTER

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 23.—The United States Department of Agriculture announced today that a rationing system will be adopted on butter and lard from the beginning of next year, it is reported from Washington.

The food shortage in the United States is reaching an alarming stage, and the ratio for butter and lard is expected to be fixed at about 15 per cent of the former average consumption.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO AID NIPPONESE IN ENEMY LANDS

New Body, Set Up Today, to Discuss Means to Comfort Interned Nationals

To study and discuss ways and means to comfort Nipponese residents interned in enemy countries, the Kaigai Dobo Chuokai or (Central Association for Overseas Nipponese), in collaboration with other organizations organized a special committee for overseas Nipponese at a ceremony held at the Dai Toa Kaikan in Marunouchi at noon today, reports Domei.

The committee was headed by Hachiro Arita, former Foreign Minister as chairman, and included among its members more than 40 leading figures in Nippon's political, industrial and commercial circles.

The committee was represented by 21 organizations including the Kaigai Kyokai Chuokai (Central Federation of Overseas Associations), Kokusai Bunka Shinko Kai (Society for International Cultural Relations), Tokyo Kirisutokyo Seinenkai (Tokyo Y.M.C.A.), Nichiin Kyokai (Nippon-India Society), Nippon-Biruma Kyokai (Nippon-Burma Society), Malai Society, Philippines Society, and Latin-American Central Association.

The new committee, comprising three sub-committees, is under management of Tsurukichi Maruyama, former Chief of the Metropolitan Police Board, as Secretary-General.

Macassar Gets 2 Journals

In commemoration of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, two newspapers, the Celebes Shimbun and the Pewarta Celebes, were newly started in Macassar on December 8 by the Nichi Nichi at the request of the Imperial Navy. The newspapers, the former in Japanese and the latter in Malaian, are published for the benefit of the native inhabitants as well as the Nipponese residents of Macassar.

Norway Makes Barter Pacts

Domei

STOCKHOLM, December 23.—The Norwegian Government announced today that a barter agreement has been signed between Norway and Italy, and also that a similar agreement has been reached with Hungary, it is reported from Oslo.

PREMIER TOJO, HOST TO PRESIDENT WANG, STRESSES WAR TIES

Hopes for Closer Cooperation Between Two Nations to Realize Common Aim

ROSY FUTURE ENVISIONED

China Determined to Contribute All, Avers Nanking Executive in Response

Premier General Hideki Tojo was host at a banquet given from 6:30 p.m. yesterday at his official residence in honor of President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of the Republic of China and his suite.

The members of President Wang's suite, who were present at the function, were Chou Fu-hai, Vice-President of the Executive Yuan and concurrently Minister of Finance, Chu Min-yi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mei Hsu-ping, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Lin Pai-sheng, Publicity Minister, General Hsiao Chu-hsuan, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, and others in addition to Ambassador Hsu Liang of the National Government of China to Tokyo.

The Nipponese present at the dinner party included such dignitaries as Baron Kiichiro Hiranuma, former Premier, Ryutaro Nagai, former Communications Minister, and Hachiro Arita, former Foreign Minister who were special envoys to the Nanking Government, in addition to the Cabinet Ministers, with the exception of Home Minister Michio Yuzawa, who was unable to attend owing to sickness.

The dinner party ended at 8:30 p.m. with a speech delivered by President Wang in reply to Premier General Tojo's speech of welcome.

Premier's Speech Follows

Premier General Tojo's speech at the dinner party is in gist as follows:

"Under the August Virtues of His Majesty the Emperor, the Empire of Nippon has achieved, in one year of the war, such marvelous results as already made known.

"As the result, Nippon has not only occupied strategically advantageous positions but also has wrested, from the hands of the United States and Britain, vast and important resources which can be converted immediately into fighting strength.

"Thus, we have completed the structure for sure victory in the current war. In other words, a corner-stone has been laid for the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere wherein all the peoples will enjoy peace.

"On the other hand, the National Government of the Republic of China and all other Asiatic nations and their peoples, are wholeheartedly cooperating with Nippon, with the view to realize the joint aim of the Asiatics.

"Indeed rosy is the future of Greater East Asia. The mission imposed on the Asiatic nations and their peoples is to share in one body, as expressed by President Wang, all joys and sorrows until the United States and Britain are crushed.

Sees Closer Cooperation

"Thanks to the present visit to this country of President Wang, we are now in a position to exchange frank views and opinions to render still closer the cooperation between Nippon and China. This is indeed timely, and I expect that Nippon and China will endeavor to cooperate still closer with a view to attaining the common aim."

In response to Premier General Tojo's speech of welcome, President Wang was pleased to reply, and in his speech, he stated:

"I have received much encouragement from my present visit to Nippon, and have no words to amply express my present feelings other than the word of gratitude.

"A work, unprecedented in magnitude and significance is about to be accomplished in East Asia. This is indeed a great occasion for the Asiatic races.

"It is necessary that the Asiatic races unite to wipe out Anglo-American influence from East Asia, for it is the only means by which to achieve ultimate victory in the War of Greater East Asia and to complete the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

"Therefore, the National Government of the Republic of China is determined to contribute all its powers, and to share the responsibility for the attainment of the common aim of all the Asiatics."

GIGANTIC EXPANSION OPENED IN SUMATRA

Rich Natural Resources Give Sure Promise of Colossal Future Development

FARMING PROSPECTS ROSY

Annual Export of Agricultural Products Reveals Huge Net Profit

With the complete ousting of Dutch influence from Sumatra, the island is presenting a busy scene of construction in every sphere of life. It is not an exaggeration to say that the island will play an important role in the construction of a new world order, contributing its rich natural resources. The future of agriculture in Sumatra faces the brightest hope as, at present, only about 10 per cent of the arable land or only 420,000 hectares are under cultivation.

Island of Plenty

Sumatra has been and is a rich island. The annual average exports of agricultural products from the eastern coast provinces alone amount to more than ¥150,000,000 in contrast to imports of ¥30,000,000,—an annual excess of exports of ¥120,000,000. The annual tax revenue in these provinces is ¥25,900,000 and expenditures only ¥5,000,000.

The annual average exports of the entire East Indies totaled 1,000,000,000 guilders, while imports were about half that amount. A survey conducted in 1937, showed that the exports of Sumatra alone amounted to more than half of the total exports of the East Indies, proving that Sumatra can keep the foreign trade books of the East Indies balanced by itself.

The annual production of tobacco, one of the island's main products, amounts to between 20,000 and 25,000 tons, valued at 50,000,000 to 70,000,000 guilders. The area occupied by tobacco plantations aggregates some 250,000 hectares or more than half of the arable land of the island now under cultivation.

Rubber production for this year, is estimated to reach 660,000 tons, the same as Malaya, while palm oil output is expected to reach 250,000 tons. Manila hemp, will top the 60,000-ton level.

Raw materials for the manufacture of porcelain and glass abound on the island, while deposits of gold, silver, copper, tungsten and feldspar also exist in profitable amounts.

Sumatra Vividly Described

An Asahi correspondent who was recently in Sumatra writes as follows regarding his trip:

"Everywhere I went I saw the Rising Sun flags waving proudly and the native inhabitants speaking Japanese. Traveling over the distance of some 4,000 kilometers, I saw a lively scene of rehabilitation everywhere I went.

"In traveling through the eastern coast of the island by car on the asphalt road, I noticed rubber plantations which were dotted here and there by the hamlets of the native inhabitants. In these hamlets, I saw many banana and coconut trees. Due to the policy of developing the coastal region adopted by the now defunct Dutch Government, the eastern coast seemed to be fully developed. The highways were running in every direction while the rubber, coconut and hemp plantations extended to as far as my eyes could reach. At present, these plantations are placed under the management of the Shonan Rubber Corporation.

"Medan, which is the capital of the island, has completely returned to its former status. The entire city is covered with green lawn, while the gardens of the city residents are well kept. At the market known as the largest in the former Netherlands East Indies, the whole scene looked attractive with piles of vegetables, chicken and fish. It was a peaceful scene to see some young girls cycling along the streets whistling the tunes of the 'Aikoku Koshin Kyoku.' (Patriotic March) in the dusk of the twilight.

"Achin Province on the northwest of the island, is very different geographically from the eastern coast. The asphalt road continued over the mountain regions and wide plains. The road runs through the deep forests where no human being lives. Somewhere in the far distance, the roaring of wild elephants was audible. Numerous buffaloes, horses and goats were seen pastured in the open and whenever these animals crossed the road the automobile had to make a passage for them.

"The mountainous region in Takegon which is situated in the central part of the same province is noted for the production of Ceylon and Java tea as well as coffee. These products are now being produced on a large scale by the Japanese.

"The Achinese who bravely continued their resistance against the Dutch even at the sacrifice of their own lives, welcomed the Japanese with tears of joy in their eyes. Due to the earnest pro-Japanese atmosphere, their eagerness for the study of the Japanese language is apparent throughout the province. I was informed that the native officials were so eager in their study of Japanese that they had expressed their wish of going to Shonan to better their Japanese language. Request after request for Japanese language teachers and text-books are streaming in to the provincial Government. The Government officials proudly told me that they could hardly cope with the enthusiasm of the islanders.

"Tapanuli Province is situated southeast of Achin Province. It presents a beautiful landscape with Lake Tobah at its center. The water of the lake was transparent while the shores were decked with red canna lilies. The plateau looked as though covered with a carpet of brackens. The climate reminded me of the pleasant weather in late spring days or early autumn days in Japan. On the mountains, the rice fields are cultivated in the staircase-style, often seen in Shinshu in Japan Proper. The native inhabitants are of the Batta tribe, and unlike the other tribes, they are mostly Christians. In every hamlet there was a small church building from where the bells were sending forth their sonorous melodies into the air. Some 10 years ago, they were known as cannibals, but they seem to have discarded their barbarous habit after a certain German missionary had earnestly preached the Christian gospel among these primitive people. They welcomed the Japanese soldiers and are enthusiastic about the Japanese Military Administration.

Cooperate With Japanese

"The west coast of the island is inhabited by the Minankaboes. This section is situated directly under the equator, but it is not unbearably hot on the Bukit Barisan plateau which lies at the foot of Mt. Merapik, some 3,000 kilometers above sea level. The Minankaboes were known before the war as being superior to the other tribes and even at that time they were eager adherents of the national movement to liberate the native people from the Dutch yoke. Since the occupation of the island by the Japanese Army, they are cooperating with the Japanese with all their hearts. Somewhere, the strains of Japanese songs sung by the native girls were carried over the air.

"Rhio Province was left purposely uncultivated by the Dutch Government merely for the reason that it was facing Shonan across the waters. There was nothing to be seen but mountain after mountain except a group of huts here and there. Even along the asphalt road it was not very seldom that the villagers were attacked by tigers. Though it is a virgin land, it will not be long before the thick jungles will be cleared and the construction task extended to these primitive regions."

Press Comments

Thursday, December 24

ASAHI—Bombing India's Fetters
TOKYO SHIMBUN—Soviet Union Maintains Silence

Bombing India's Fetters

ASAHI.—Our Army Air Force which had continuously bombed Chittagong and other enemy bases in northern India, inflicting severe damage to the enemy, attacked the British airdrome and other military establishments in the suburbs of Calcutta on the night of December 20 and blasted away the stirrings of the enemy to raid our southern bases. We cannot but admire and be grateful to the efforts of our fighting services which are planning and executing war operations so well that they are always beating the enemy to the draw.

The attack on the British bases, of course, was not intended to affect the Indian people but solely to smash the Anglo-American forces in India which were planning counter attacks on the Imperial Forces in Burma and had brutally bombed innocent Thai and Burmese peoples. Just as the talk to the press by the head of the department of information of the Southern Expeditionary Army pointed out, the Nipponese attacks were strictly confined to enemy military establishments. The Imperial Forces had exercised much forbearance in the face of British provocations for fear that innocent Indians might be subjected to the ravages of war, in spite of many strategic disadvantages. This clearly reflects the whole-hearted sympathy of the Imperial Army and people with the Indian people who are groaning under the tyranny of the British.

It is reported that the Nipponese bombing of British military establishments in the Calcutta area has occasioned an intense anti-British movement there. The anti-British attitude of the Indian people has grown acute since the drastic British measures against independence leaders in the spring of this year. Even the British privately admit that their India policy has been a failure. Their policy has been to arrest the leaders of the anti-British movement including Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and others, to suppress the masses with rifle fire and poison gas and to conduct negotiations for compromise with the imprisoned leaders.

Such a systematic policy of suppression has failed as it was bound to fail. In the first place, the imprisoned leaders are not so naive as the British imagined and not so easily taken in. Secondly, the anti-British movement of the Indian people is no longer of such a mild nature as to be technically possible of political reconciliation. The economic difficulties from which the Indian people are suffering have intensified the anti-British sentiment.

The economic hardships from which the Indian people are suffering are beyond description, the major cause of which lies in the British India policy. Since the outbreak of the second European War, Britain has drawn on the Indian food supply to supplement the food supply at home which was extremely short and has tried to meet the food requirements of the North African forces partly with Indian foodstuff. Consequently famine has struck the Indian people and the general masses have become lean from hunger. The uprising among the masses, therefore, can no longer be checked by the crafty methods of the British, being a spontaneous outburst of the starving farmers.

Such a food policy on the part of the British is the inevitable outcome of their defeats on all fronts and also a manifestation of their discriminative and contemptuous attitude toward the Indian people. They have always considered the Indian people as something they may trod on or ruthlessly exploit for profit. We cannot but feel the deepest sympathy for the unhappy people of India under the British yoke. Although the Nipponese air attacks on British bases in India at first glance may seem to add to the suffering of the Indian people, they really are intended to bring relief to the suffering millions by enabling them to defy the British. They are intended to blast the fetters binding India.

Soviet Union Maintains Silence

TOKYO SHIMBUN—The second year of the War of Greater East Asia finds Germany, Italy and Nippon consolidating their common resolve to establish a new world order by going through thick and thin together, while the temporary ties linking the enemy nations are being strained to the utmost by the selfish, realistic opportunism of each. They have no common ideal as to the post-war world.

Prime Minister Churchill, known for his arrogance, may break into an ingratiating smile and say that American blood runs in his veins but such diplomatic language cannot hide the bare fact that the undercurrent of conflict between Britain, which is endeavoring to maintain its plutocratic domination of the world, and the United States, which is trying to monopolize it, is steadily intensifying.

There is also the sphinx-like attitude of the Soviet Union which is smiling contemptuously on the fatal relationship between the two bourgeois countries without troubling to mediate. It is not clear what is the idea of the Soviet Union, which considers capitalism the eternal blight on mankind, regarding the democratic new order. Nor do we have any slant on the Soviet conception of its role in such a new order. It seems evident, however, that the Soviet Union cannot repress a yawn over the illusory discussions of the Democracies such as the armistice terms discussed in Washington. The Soviet Union is maintaining utter silence over such political gestures on the part of the plutocratic Powers.

As a matter of fact, the Soviet Union has made positive expressions of its wishes in regard to the strategic conduct of the war as a member of the United Nations but in regard to political linkage with the Democracies it has made only evasive remarks. The Soviet Government has made political comments only on two occasions: the first to Churchill on the Hess question and the second to London and Washington on the Darlan issue. Premier Stalin has been absolutely silent on any other political issue. Neither he nor any other member of the Soviet Government said anything when Sir Stafford Cripps was ousted from the British War Cabinet. In silence the Soviets heard Foreign Secretary Eden's statement in the House of Commons on December 2 on the peace structure of the future. What has made Premier Stalin so coldly disposed toward the Democracies? It is the impassable gulf of rival ideologies and the fatal difference in the ideals of the State system entertained by each.

Burma Telegraph Extended

Domei

HONGKONG, December 23.—The communications authorities of the Government-General today announced that the telegraphic service between Hongkong and Burma, which was opened sometime ago between Rangoon and here will be extended from today to seven principal cities, namely, Moulmein, Pegu, Prome, Toungngoo, Myingyan, Mandalay and Taunggyi.

50,000 U.S. Laborers To Work Rubber Farms In Amazon Area, Brazil

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 23.—The United States Government has adopted a plan of settling 50,000 American workers on the rubber plantation in the Amazon Area, Brazil, as a measure for increasing the rubber output in cooperation with the Brazilian Government and the first group of settlers will leave by May 1, next year, it is reported from Washington.

Police in Peshawar Clash With Indians; Gunfire Exchanged

(Continued From Page 1)

servative leaders.

3. India will make a strong base for the Anglo-Saxon camp in their war against Nippon. Therefore, it is natural that the internal trouble in that country should be settled as early as possible.

In this conection, Life, a popular American weekly, in an article signed by its editor on October 12, stated to the effect that the prevailing trouble in India constitutes a serious obstacle in the way of showing the unity of the war aims of the "United Nations" to the American people.

Suspect British Aim

The popular American antagonism against the British Conservative leaders in power, it is recalled, became evident on the arrest of Mahatma Gandhi and other national leaders in India immediately after the failure of the Cripps mission. The American people then strongly doubted the objectivity of the war which was alleged to be for the liberty of the peoples in the Anglo-Saxon camp. They began to suspect that the war was being fought for the sole benefit of the Conservatists in Britain.

The American people are now convinced that the failure of the recent Cripps' mission was not due, as then alleged by the British Government, to the complicated nature of the Indian political situation, but to the obstinacy of the conservative leaders in Britain. Louis Fisher, an American commentator, in his recent contribution to the magazine, Nation, observed that both the Britishers and the Indians predicted the failure of the Cripps mission when the home Government of Britain made it clear that it had no intention to grant independent rule to India.

More light has lately been shed on the behind-the-scene workings of Sir Stafford's negotiations in India, by a small book published a few days ago by Professor Reginald Copeland of Oxford University, England. The author was a member of the Cripps mission to India and the book was entitled the "Mission of Sir Stafford Cripps."

In his book Copeland disclosed that just when Sir Stafford was preparing to return home after the failure of his mission, Roosevelt dispatched an urgent message to British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, saying that Cripps should remain in India and resume his parley. The Presidential proposal was flatly rejected by Churchill, the author declared.

All in all, Anglo-American relations, centered on the Indian problem, will depend in the future on how far the British Government will listen to the advice of the American leaders regarding India. In this connection, it is interesting to note that Churchill declared on November 10 that Britain's policy of the past will be followed in the future, and that as British Minister, he was not in a position to liquidate the United Kingdom.

HOTEL PRICES TO BE FIXED

Central Commission to Alter Maximum Charge Limit From February

Effective from February of next year, maximum hotel charges will be fixed at the rate of ¥12 for a single and ¥22 for a double room, it was decided at a meeting of the Central Price Commission held on Tuesday.

According to the decision, hotels will be classified into four or five categories. Service charges will be fixed at 10 per cent of the charges.

Details of the plan will be decided at a meeting of the Special Committee on Hotel Charges, which will be held in January of next year.

FINLAND'S BIRTH RATE UP

Total in 1941 Shows Highest Increase Since 1912

HELSINKI.—Finland in 1941 had the highest birth rate since 1912 with a total of 89,300 births of which 46,030 were boys and 43,270 girls.

Of this total, a little over 80 per cent were born in rural districts and the rest in towns.

In 1938 and 1939, 16 and 17 per cent respectively of the total were born in towns.

FRENCH-CANADIANS AGAINST PREMIER KING'S WAR POLICY

Form People's Bloc in Quebec Opposing Dispatch of Troops To Foreign Countries

Tokyo Shimbun

SHANGHAI, December 23.—The citizens of French descent of Quebec, Canada, are strongly opposed to the dispatch of Canadian troops abroad, and consequently they have organized the Canadian People's Bloc in opposition to the war policy of Prime Minister William L. MacKenzie King, it is reported by the Economist, a British publication.

The Canadian People's Bloc stands for "Canada for the Canadians, and Quebec for the citizens of Quebec."

The bloc has criticized the existing political parties that have broken their promises to the people to permit the dispatch of Canadian troops to foreign countries.

It also demands the complete autonomy for the province of Quebec.

Battle in N. Africa Favors Reich, Italy

(Continued From Page 1)

West Mediterranean. Whereas the enemy forces have to depend on the supply transported through the Atlantic and the vast continent of Africa or through the sea route leading as far as the Cape of Good Hope, the Axis forces have absolute command of the air at the spot.

Good Supply Route

To add to the fighting strength of the Axis, the maritime transportation through the route from Sicily and Bizerta is functioning quite satisfactorily under the protection of the Axis fighter plane squadrons. It is reported that the supplies to North Africa through this route are so abundant as to exceed the landing capacity of the port of Bizerta.

By virtue of this advantageous supply line, heavy fire arms such as the 8.8-calibre anti-tank guns and 85-ton heavy tanks have been transported to the African Front. In addition to this, the Axis has taken control of the French merchant marine totaling 4,000,000 tons and also the French fleet in the port of Bizerta.

Malta, the only remaining British base in the Mediterranean, is still presenting an obstacle to the Italo-German operations. But as the activities of the enemy air force stationed in this fortified base have been limited because of the control of the aforementioned triangle strategic keypoints by the Axis forces, the Axis commissary lines are functioning without suffering any hindrance by the enemy.

Surveying the African Front as a whole, Tunis and Tripoli constitute the most important strategic keypoints. With these points having been secured by the Axis forces, the strategic outlook in North Africa is definitely in favor of the Italo-German forces.

Spain, Portugal Worried

Under such circumstances, Spain and Turkey, two corner stones of the Mediterranean, have a serious bearing on the outcome of the war situation in this region. It is generally considered that these two countries will inevitably be involved in the war.

The enemy advance into the economic field of Turkey has recently become more conspicious whereas Spain is quite liable to be invaded by the Anglo-American forces. The most important concern at the present moment is what attitude Spain will take in the event of the American-British invasion.

According to reliable information, Spain has become more friendly toward the Axis since the American operations were started in North Africa. Consequently, the authorities of the invading American forces have assumed a rather antagonistic attitude toward the present Franco regime, meanwhile tendering support to the Spanish Communist elements in Algeria and Morocco.

What new development in war situation will emerge from the turbulent conditions in North Africa and West Mediterranean remains the first problem to be solved in the coming year.

EUROPEAN ATHLETES MEET

5 Cities Hold Sports Events Despite War

BERLIN.—International sports events in Europe took place recently despite the war and no fewer than six international meetings were conducted in several cities.

These meets included tennis matches between Sweden and Denmark at Stockholm, a triangular boxing card between Germany, Italy and Hungary staged at Berlin, international cycle races at Zurich, wrestling matches between Italy and Croatia at Bari (Italy), swimming competitions for women between Vienna and Budapest at the latter city, and an ice hockey tournament between Switzerland and Sweden played off at Zurich.

Decisive Air Raids on Wake Island Described by Nippon, U.S. Airmen

Base in Pacific Was Reduced 1 Year Ago—Diary of American Flight-Lieutenant Reveals Utter Helplessness in Face of Imperial Might

By Navy Reporter FUJITA

AT AN UNDISCLOSED BASE, December 23.—Today is the first anniversary of the occupation of Wake Island, now renamed Otori-shima, by the Imperial Forces. This reporter sends a document written by a commander of a certain Imperial Air Unit which was responsible for the successful reduction of this former American base, and also an excerpt from the diary of an American Flight-Lieutenant P. who was the commander of the United States air unit in the island, both of which will furnish the readers with graphic and concrete materials with which to commemorate the feat accomplished by the Nippon Forces just one year ago today.

The document by Unit Commander X follows:

"It was at dawn on December 8 that we received the order to attack Wake Island. A few hours after our departure from the base, we received a report that the attack on Hawaii was successful. We were excited by the good news.

"When our air squadron reached Wake Island, we found that the sky there was covered with thick clouds. Our planes dived through them like hawks and commenced the attack. One moment later, the headquarters of the enemy Marine Corps, anti-aircraft gun batteries and the hotel of the Pan-Pacific Airways were blasted to ruins and eight enemy planes ranged on the airdrome were brown to smithereens.

Was Decisive Action

"Such devastating raids were conducted for more than a dozen times before the island was finally occupied. Heretofore I had never witnessed such a decisive engagement.

"The victory achieved in the reduction of this American base was, I firmly believe, due to the August Virtues of His Majesty the Emperor and the supreme fighting spirit held by the Imperial servicemen, exhaustive preparations and the spiritual accord prevailing among the soldiers who took part in the expedition."

The diary of American Flying Officer P. follows:

November 27. In the afternoon, received instructions to go to Ford Island in Pearl Harbor tomorrow, leading an air squadron consisting of 12 planes in order to receive the supreme secret command.

November 30. Several units of the air force carried out anti-submarine reconnaissance over the sea during daytime. They have already received the order to attack Japanese submarines, ships or war planes, instantaneously when detected.

December 4. Left the aircraft carrier at a point 200 nautical miles from Wake Island. Arrived there at 8:56 a.m. Reported to that effect to C.E.A.G. (Admiral aboard the aircraft carrier.) Was pleased to see that the airfield, coastal guns and anti-aircraft batteries have been completed thanks to the labor of some 1,000 workers who have been engaged in the work of construction here since last September.

Praises Imperial Airmen

December 8. On landing the base after a reconnaissance flight, received a report that Pearl Harbor had been attacked. Instantly, had the airplanes dispersed. Toward noon, the island was attacked by the enemy air force, which raided the base flying at a low altitude. Beautiful formation! Complete bombing! Never dreamt that there exists in the world such a bold and well-disciplined bomber squadron. Ninety-nine per cent of the facilities in the airfield have been lost. Of the eight airplanes on the field, four were blasted by direct bombing, three set ablaze and the remaining one was damaged beyond repair.

December 9. The enemy came in the morning. Some bombed the warehouses in Peale Island, and others the anti-air raid shelters while the remainder raided military establishments. All targets were blasted. How formidable is the enemy's might! Fires caused by the bombing continued to rage for 12 hours. Many of the men I sought were found dead.

December 10. Removed the site of the headquarters. The enemy air force came again this morning. Anti-aircraft batteries and the camp of the First Position were blown up.

December 11. The enemy planes bombed the First Position and the airfield in the morning. They came again at 00 o'cloc. Twenty-seven men of our unit have been killed and 12 severely wounded.

December 12. Large-sized enemy hydroplanes came today. For the last five days, all establishments and ammunition, save for bombs and powder, have been lost. We have only two vehicles and one dynamo left in working order.

December 14. At 3 a.m., enemy warplanes roared over the island. The air-raid shelter received direct hit and two members of the unit inside were killed instantly while 100 were wounded. The enemy carried out a machine-gun raid. The whole scene presents a hell on earth.

December 15. There are 10 days before Christmas. People in the homeland must be busy buying presents. In the afternoon, some enemy planes came to raid us. Was surprised by the very accurate night bombing.

December 16. Two enemy air squadrons attacked both Peale Island and this base. After the raid, oil tanks, the headquarters of the Marines and camps were set ablaze. Twenty boxes of gunpowder stored in an underground shelter exploded.

December 17. No. 9 plane only remains intact. Toward evening a few enemy planes bombed and machine-gunned Peale Island.

December 21. In the morning, enemy dive-bombers and fighter planes attacked the island. The power plant and the buildings near the wharf were completely razed.

December 22. Was wounded in three places on the right arm. Sent report that the enemy planes are too efficient for American planes to cope with. Wept at the mass of ruins our planes presented.

(Here ends the diary. The officer was taken prisoner on the morning of December 23 when the Imperial Forces landed on the island.)

Venezuela Food Shortage

LISBON.—American families in the oilfields in eastern Venezuela are facing a shortage of foodstuffs due to transportation difficulties, according to Time magazine. As there is no farming in that district, American engineers and their families must procure all their foodstuffs from the United States.

Two Soviet Citizens, One Turk, Sentenced In Von Papen Trial

Domei

ISTANBUL, December 23.—The trial on the attempted assassination of German Ambassador to Turkey, Baron Franz von Papen, came to an end today. Two Soviet citizens were sentenced to imprisonment for 16 years, while one Turk was sentenced to ten year's imprisonment.

Mrs. Henry Gives Notice

Mrs. Arsene Henry, wife of the French Ambassador, will be at home tomorrow. She will not be at home on January 1 but will resume her receptions on January 8.

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SPECIFICATIONS DEFINED FOR MACHINES AND TOOLS

Standardizing Accessories and Parts to Facilitate South Reconstruction Work

In order to facilitate the development of natural resources through the standardization of parts and accessories of important machinery and tools used for reconstruction operations in the Southern Regions, the Board of Technology has decided to define specifications for different parts of larger machinery as well as small machine tools, it was reported by Domei yesterday.

In setting up new specifications, the Board will take into special consideration varying climatic conditions in different parts of the Southern Regions so that the efficiency and durability of machinery and tools may be promoted and increased.

As the first toward the establishment of the new system, a committee for the investigation of industrial weights and measures used in Greater East Asia will be organized early next year within the Board of Technology, it was revealed.

The authorities concerned are expected to initiate their investigation with a thorough study of such important industries as the electric power and oil industries in the Southern Regions.

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HORI SUMS UP WORLD EVENTS; FOES DISUNITED

Anglo-American Illusions in North Africa Rapidly Being Shattered

U.S. MOTIVATED BY GREED

Dream of World Domination Clashing With British Principles

"The Latest International Situation: North African Campaign and Antagonism between the United States and Britain" was the subject of the speech of Tomokazu Hori, spokesman of the Board of Information, broadcast Wednesday.

The events which at present, with this year drawing to a close, are attracting the world's attention, Mr. Hori said, are the war developments in French North Africa. Few campaigns have been the subjects of so much blatant propaganda as this North African fighting. According to the enemy allegations, if the Anglo-American side should succeed in this campaign, it would secure the following advantages:

(1) The seapower of the Mediterranean which the Anglo-American camp has almost entirely lost to the Axis would to some extent be restored to the former.

(2) With the Mediterranean route opened to them, the United States and Britain would be able to supply munitions to, and secure better contact with, the Iraq and Iran sectors.

(3) North Africa could be made the spring-board for counter-attack on France, Italy and the Balkans.

(4) If the North African zone could be occupied entirely, all Africa may be considered to have been placed under the influence of the United States and Britain, and not only all the material resources of Africa would become available but the menace to the Atlantic route could be lessened.

Enemy Morale Low

The Anglo-American camp has been confronted with the necessity of lifting the morale of the peoples of the two countries and of making some show of fulfilling its promise to the Soviet Union of forming a second front by adopting some sort of offensive.

According to enemy announcements, they used 650 vessels including warships and transports for the conveyance of troops, arms and provisions, some steaming [illegible] from England and others coming across the Atlantic from America. Even if we make certain discounts in their version, we can well imagine the magnitude of the scale of the dangerous and bold adventure they have undertaken. No wonder the Anglo-American public has gone delirious with joy when news was received of the Anglo-American landings, President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill, the press and commentators at once took to trumpeting it abroad as if the Anglo-American forces had succeeded in effecting landings in the face of enemy resistance.

The facts are that they have invaded neutral territory such as French North Africa and that, with the Anglo-American policy of enticing over the French garrisons in Morocco and Algeria succeeding, these garrison forces offered only nominal resistance and soon called truce, which means that the enemy have landed in areas where no real defense existed. Thus their landings are fundamentally different in nature from what we are familiar with from the landings in the face of enemy resistance so frequently effected by the Japanese Forces in the War of Greater East Asia.

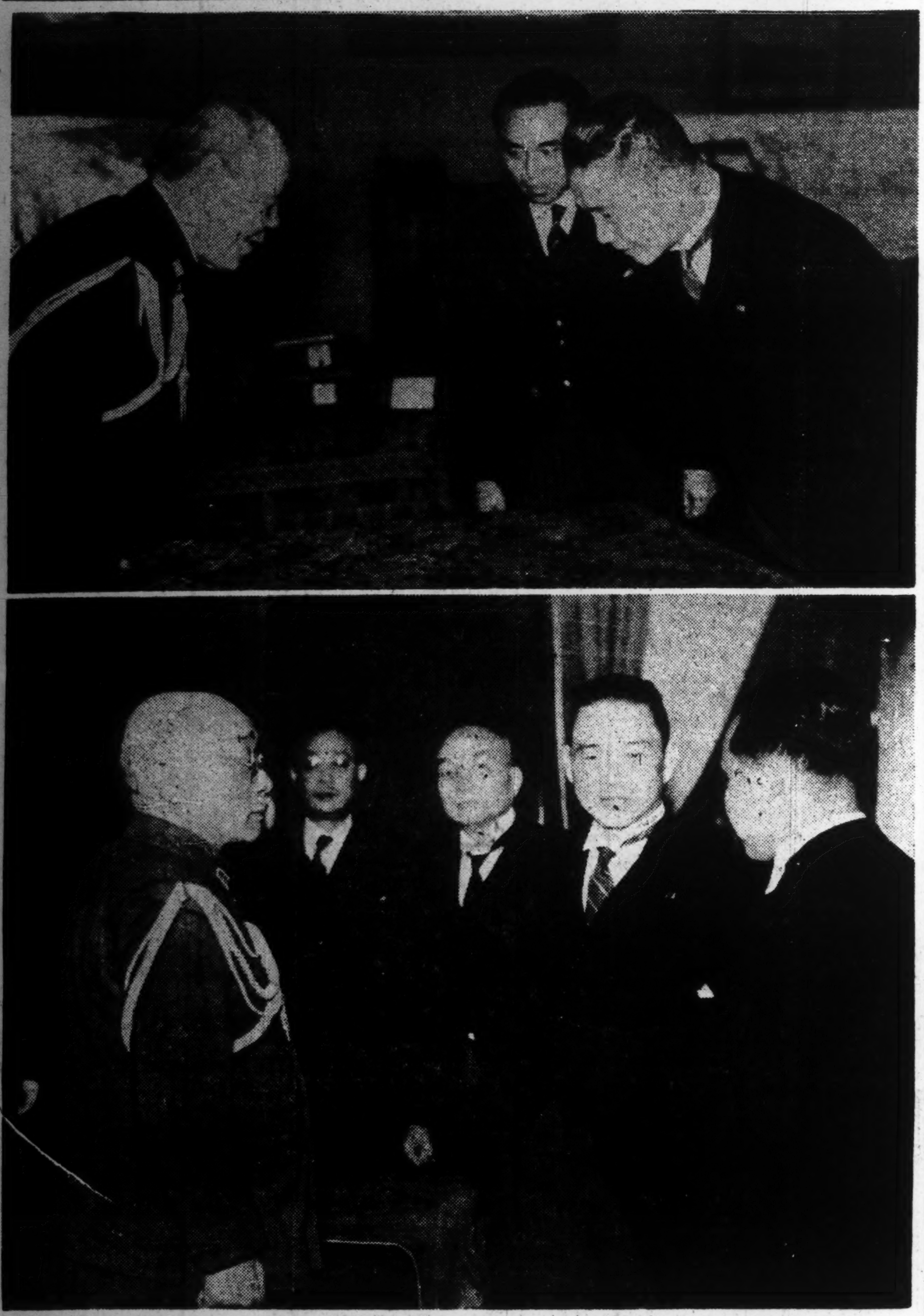
At any rate, elated by their initial success, the Anglo-American forces, with the contingent commanded by Lieutenant-General K. M. Anderson, commander of the 1st Army in North Africa, foremost, have advanced eastward, while the British 8th Army has advanced westward from Egypt, in a pincer movement against Tunis and Bizerta. They apparently have approached within 25 miles of these towns.

Illusion Shattered

Meanwhile, the Italo-German High Command had been planning carefully in anticipation of some such moves on the part of the enemy. With lightning rapidity, on Nov-

(Continued on Page 2)

Wang Makes Courtesy Calls



President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of China, accompanied by members of his suite, made courtesy calls on Admiral Osami Nagano, (top photo) Chief of the Naval General Staff, and General Gen Sugiyama, Chief of the Army General Staff, on Wednesday afternoon.

PALEMBANG INSTITUTE GRADUATES FIRST CLASS

Domei

PALEMBANG, December 23.—The Mizuho Gakuen, a Japanese language institute established by the Palembang provincial government at the suggestion of the Japanese Military Administration for the special benefit of the young native people, yesterday graduated its first class, thanks to the untiring efforts of Principal Dokata and members of its faculty.

The young people who have been given the honor of graduating with the first class are expected to contribute immeasurably to the remaking of Sumatra as they have been made not only conversant with the Japanese language but thoroughly conscious of the fact that they are inalienable part of the great Asiatic races.

INDIA BORDER CLOSED

Domei

CANTON, December 23.—General Archibald C. Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis forces in India, has proclaimed the closing of the Indian-Burmese border to all traffic, according to information reaching here today.

All civilians, regardless of their nationalities, have been ordered strictly to keep out of the blockade area and anyone caught violating this ruling will be punished severely by court martial, General Wavell is reported to have proclaimed.

15 Administrators Named

To cope with the increasing activities of the Japanese Military Administration in the Southern Regions, the War Ministry on Wednesday announced the appointment of 15 additional civil administrators to be assigned to the Headquarters of Japanese Military Administration in the occupied areas. The appointees included Eijiro Fujui, Chief of the General Affairs Bureau of the Finance Division of the Osaka Municipality.

Hongkong Will Fete First Anniversary Of Fall of Island

Domei

HONGKONG, December 23.—All Hongkongites on December 25 will celebrate the first anniversary of the fall of Hongkong before the Japanese Forces on the same day a year ago which marked the end of its British rule and the return of Hongkong as a mecca of Asiatic races. A colorful celebration program is being drafted by the authorities of the Hongkong Government-General as well as local civilian leaders, including a grand celebration concert. To take part in the concert Naoshi Otake, well-known conductor of the Japan Symphonic Orchestra of Tokyo, accompanied by Toroku Tagaki, noted pianist, attached to the same orchestra arrived here by air yesterday from Tokyo.

GERMAN SUBMARINES HIT U.S. MAIL TRAFFIC

STOCKHOLM.—Members of families of American soldiers serving in Europe have been advised by the American postal authorities to send all letters in duplicate because much overseas mail is being lost as a result of German submarine activity, according to report received here.

It is officially recalled in this connection that nearly the entire Christmas mail posted on September and October was lost, and that on October 24 alone, 4986 mail bags went down with a single steamer.

The postal authorities simultaneously call the attention of letter writers that kisses attached at the end of letters must, in compliance with the orders of the censorship authorities, not be transmitted by the usual markings of crosses but should be "written out."

51,000 COMFORT BAGS GIVEN TO NAVY, ARMY

Fifty-one thousand comfort bags were contributed today to the Army and Navy by the Zenkoku Shichokai (National Mayors' Association) and the Zenkoku Chosoncho-kai, or National Association of Chiefs of Towns and Villages.

In a ceremony which took place at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday morning at the Zenkoku Chosoncho Kaikan in Shiba Park, 51,000 comfort bags were formally presented to the Army and Navy by Yaemon Isomura, Vice-President of the association.

The kits containing 150,000 consolation picture cards made from originals drawn by national school children, 1,000 charms of the Meiji Shrine and numerous other gifts, were contributed in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the introduction of the conscription system in Japan.

WRITERS' BODY VOWS SERVICE AT 1ST MEETING

Speech and Press Association Formally Begins Functions With Ceremony

DETERMINATION VOICED

Importance of Ideological Warfare Is Stressed in Speech by Okumura

The inaugural ceremony of the Dai Nippon Association for Service to the State through Speech and Press, which was recently organized by commentators and writers as a bulwark of ideological warfare, was held at the Greater East Asia Hall on Wednesday morning. The function was attended by about 260 members and about 100 guests.

With Professor Kojiro Sugimori of Waseda University in the chair, the ceremony was opened with the national group rites. Tatsuo Tsukui, noted commentator and Diet member, then submitted a report, in which he said that the Japan Commentators' Society was voluntarily dissolved incidental to the organization of the new Association under the guidance and supervision of the Board of Information. An explanation of the articles of association was made by Professor Tomio Nakano of Waseda University.

Officials Are Named

The officials of the Association were designated by Vice-President Kiwao Okumura of the Board of Information during the absence of Iichiro Tokutomi, President of the new organization. The list of officials follows:

President, Iichiro Tokutomi; Managing-Director and Director-General, Dr. Kazunobu Kanokogi; Assistant Managing-Directors, Tatsuo Tsukui, Shigeomi Nomura and Hiromu Izawa; Directors, Nobuyuki Okuma, Yutaka Oshima, Toyoo Ogushi, Seijun Yamazaki, Seiken Kosaka, Iwao Takayama, Tokutaro Fujita, Michitsugu Sato, Masamichi Shinmyo, Chu Saito, Sho Saito, Dr. Tetsuji Kata, Dr. Seiichiro Ono, Rear-Admiral Tanetsugu Sosa, Dr. Kenzo Akiyama, Kiyoshi Tomizuka, Katsuji Inahara, Akio Hashizume, Takeshi Furukawa, Shichiro Hozumi, Dr. Mishige Komaki, Mrs. Fusae Ichikawa, and Tomio Nakano; and Auditors, Chu Funada, Seiichi Sumita, Kunio Morishita and Tatsuo Ohashi.

Representing the officials Dr. Kanokogi expressed the firm determination of all members to work for the successful prosecution of the ideological warfare through speech and press. To this, Mr. Okumura on behalf of the Government made a speech of encouragement. Representing the members Nyozekan Hasegawa made an address. Dr. Setsurei Miyake, veteran commentator, then stood up, and the entire gathering shouted banzai for His Majesty the Emperor.

Bow Toward Palace

This ended the inaugural ceremony. All the officials and members filed into the plaza in front of the Imperial Palace and respectfully bowed toward the Imperial Palace and silently pledged themselves to offer their services to the State.

An elaborate luncheon commemorating the inauguration of the Association was held at the same hall on that day. Dr. Kanokogi acted as

(Continued on Page 2)

Today's Press Comments

Thursday, December 24, 1942

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Japan Times Advertiser.)

Convocation of the 81st Diet Session

NIPPON SANGYO—The 81st session of the Imperial Diet will be convoked today. The business of the Diet at the session will be to attend exclusively to the question of what must be done in order to increase the nation's fighting power. The major attention of the Diet is expected to be given to measures for the smooth operation of the wartime economy of the people. The Government has 56 legislative bills ready for presentation to the session. The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, which embrace all members of the House of Representatives, has completed preparations for the session. It will take care that the Lower House members will perform their duties in a manner becoming the legislators of a nation engaged in the greatest war in history. There are much to be done by the country at the present stage of the war, and it is our belief that it all is provided for in the bills the Government has decided to lay before the coming session.

The Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association has indicated the course it intends to follow in the session. It is to cooperate with the Government. It gives us cause to expect a great deal of the session.

The principal bills to be introduced by the Government in the coming session deal with extension of productivity. Thus the session will

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U.S. Writer Places Lens Over F.D.R. —Finds Him Selfish and Impatient

True Character of Roosevelt Exposed by George Creel in Liberty Magazine—'President Only Believes What He Wants to Believe'

LISBON, December 22.—In a character study of Roosevelt written by the American journalist George Creel and published in Liberty magazine, issue of October 24, 1942, the writer comes to the conclusion that the U. S. President has much imagination for big plans but sadly lacks the painstaking patience for details. For this reason, the article further reveals, Roosevelt has always tried to undertake too many things at one time . . . and to do them all himself, thus invariably creating confusion in Government circles. The article, entitled "Roosevelt, As I See Him," runs as follows:

In his capacity as inspiring leader and as a dynamic force the President belongs to a human category of his own. Even Churchill cannot be placed on the same level as he. As an administrator, however, he is incredibly inefficient. No human being has ever had nobler dreams and nobody was ever less endowed with the gift to make his dreams come true. Exactly those faculties which make the President rich in inspiration and courage, incapacitate him for the sober task to put his ideas into practice.

Tragedy of America

It is his tragedy and the tragedy of America that he is either not inclined or not in a position to judge his own temperament objectively and to recognize his own limits. Everyone of the men close to him will admit that Roosevelt hates to have his soaring enthusiasm weighed down by the details which are necessary for the realization of his plans.

Why bother about the fragments of one plan, if already another, brand new one has been thought out? This would have no painful consequences, however, if he could bring himself to delegate some of his authority to others. Because it seems impossible to him to cede any part of his power, his enemies assert that he is egoistic and jealous. Here again it is his markedly youthful way which must be held responsible therefore.

When Woodrow Wilson nominated a man for a certain post, his tasks and duties were explained to him to the minutest details. Franklin D. Roosevelt is not at all in a position to adopt such an attitude, but he is always eager to poke his nose into anything. If one examines his executive orders, one will almost realize that without the consent of the President not one step can be taken.

Consequently his high officials are twiddling their thumbs for days till they can get the go ahead signal. No single human being can adequately cope with the thousands of

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AIR RAIDS ON INDIA ENCOURAGE PEOPLE

Latest Japanese Action Stimulates Independence Move—British Nerves Frayed

Domei

ISTANBUL, December 22.—All indications are that the air raids conducted by the Japanese Army Air Force against Calcutta and Chittagong, in India, between Sunday night and Monday morning, which inflicted heavy damages upon the enemy military establishments in the two places, have given fresh impetus to the movement for freedom in India.

Advices received here today from various points in India give conflicting reports. On the one hand, it is reported that the Indian Government and British military authorities have announced that damages caused by the Japanese aerial assaults were slight, and the general public maintained their composure throughout the air raid.

On the other hand, however, various emergency measures which obviously indicate great efforts to keep the general public quiet are reported to have been taken. For instance, a member of the Executive Council for Civilian Defense of the Government is reported to have hurried to Calcutta from New Delhi with the avowed object of investigating the damages inflicted by the Japanese Air Force.

Furthermore, Lord Linlithgow, Indian Viceroy, and the director of civilian defence for Bengal each have issued a statement urging the general public to maintain composure during any air raid, it is reported.

JOURNEYS RESTRICTED OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS

Doughboys in England No Longer Able to Use Trains And Buses on Holidays

STOCKHOLM.—American soldiers stationed in England are no longer permitted to make use of the railways and overland omnibuses during their weekend leaves, according to a London report.

This decree was issued by the American military headquarters in England for the purpose of lessening the strain on weekend transportation.

American soldiers who go to London during their leave are only allowed to visit clubs operated by the Red Cross, the official announcement added.

They are furthermore requested to preserve at all times a dignified soldierly attitude in order to maintain American prestige.

ITALIANS PREPARING FOR BIG CHRISTMAS

Vatican to Hold Special Services to Be Broadcast To Whole World

Domei

ROME, December 22.—Reflecting the favorable turn in the war situation in Tunisia for the Axis forces, the citizens of Rome are busily and cheerfully making preparations for Christmas, the third to be observed by Italians in the present war.

In this connection, it way be observed here that landing operations conducted by the United States forces in North Africa somewhat disturbed the Italian general public for a time but they soon recovered their composure as superb tactics of the Axis forces turned the war situation in their favor.

The Italians are still continuing to economize on consumption of fuel and as yet the heating at their homes as well as offices has not been started. The temperature this year, however, is much higher than usual and the fine weather with beautiful blue sky, as is typical of Southern Europe, continue to favor the Italians.

Streets in the commercial center are now bustling with people out to do their Christmas shopping. A great variety of toys are on sale and they seem to be the best seller as Christmas presents in the face of the control over luxuries. Italian housewives find difficulty in obtaining such delicacies for Christmas as turkey, chicken and duck.

Champagne for use during Christmas is easily obtainable everywhere. Thus, the Italians are observing the Merry Christmas almost as usual despite the war, except that the Christmas Eve will be largely conined to the fireside on account of light control.

General observance of the Christmas Eve is to be advanced to 4 o'clock in the afternoon instead of around midnight so that the general public may go home before curfew hour.

The Christmas Eve services at the Chapel in the Vatican will be held at midnight with Pope Pius XII officiating, bespeaking the specific position the Vatican holds even during wartime. For the first time in its history, the Vatican this year is making arrangements to broadcast the services by an international hookup in the interests of the peoples in the world.

Moresby Blasted Again

Port Moresby was subjected to another intensive bombing by Japanese Air Units on the night of December 22, it was announced by the Southwestern Pacific Anti-Axis Forces Headquarters, according to a Sydney dispatch to Lisbon intercepted by Domei under date of December 23.

IMPERIAL DIET TO MEET TODAY IN 81ST SESSION

Scheduled to Discuss Measures For Continued Successful Waging of War

CONVENES THIS MORNING

General Abe of Imperial Rule Political Body Clarifies Work of Members

With Japan having completed the first year of the Greater East Asia War with brilliant victories achieved by the Japanese armed forces on land, sea and in the air, the Imperial Diet is convening today for its 81st ordinary session to deliberate on measures for the continued successful prosecution of hostilities.

In view of the importance of the forthcoming Diet, the Government has been making preparations from as early as the middle of October and has decided to limit the introduction of bills to those which are urgently necessary for the prosecution of war.

In the middle of November, the Cabinet discussed more than 50 bills and approved the draft general budget of ¥9,995,000,000 for the next fiscal year on December 10, thereby completing all preparations for the forthcoming Diet session.

On the other hand, on December 15 the Lower House Inquiry Committee met to make a preliminary examination of bills, which was completed on December 19.

Meanwhile, the Political Inquiry Committee of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association had a general meeting Tuesday and clarified its fundamental attitude at the forthcoming session.

Rule Aid Body Meets

A general meeting of the Lower House members of the National Service Political Association was held at its headquarters from 1:30 p.m. Wednesday afternoon, when its policies for the forthcoming session of the Imperial Diet were clarified in a speech by General Nobuyuki Abe, President of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association.

Procedure for both Houses within the year also have been decided upon.

General Abe's speech was as follows:

"The 81st session of the Imperial Diet will be convened tomorrow. This is the first regular session to be faced by the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association under the War of Greater East Asia. It is for this reason that I have a keen sense of the very grave meaning there is in the coming session.

"I am filled with trepidation to note His Majesty the Emperor in person worshipped before the Grand Shrines of Ise on December 12. It is understood that at the Shrines His Imperial Majesty prayed for victory in the War of Greater East Asia.

"We stand in awe at the thought of the Imperial solicitude. The 100,000,000 people of Nippon are filled with trepidation by the consideration of Imperial wishes.

"Under the protection of the Imperial Ancestors and under the August Virtues of His Majesty the Emperor, the most brilliant military results in history have been obtained in the Greater East Asia War, thanks to the resourcefulness and heroism of the officers and men of the Imperial Forces. All the people are full of gratitude for this.

"Let me dwell briefly on the origin of the Greater East Asia War. America and Britain stood in the way of Japan. They not only hampered the realization of the great ideals upheld by Japan about the world, Greater East Asia, and the China continent, but also dared to threaten the existence of the Empire in order to realize their political designs upon the world. It was in order to crush America and Britain and those countries which were associated with them that the Empire went to war.

Victory Means Everything

"Everything depends upon the realization of this great ideal of bringing to a victorious termination the Greater East Asia War.

"On December 8 we held meetings in various places to mark the first anniversary of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. At that time we remembered the mood which we were in at the time the Imperial Rescript declaring war on the United States and the British Empire was granted. We reflected

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WANG MAKES CALL AT OMIYA PALACE

In Afternoon, Nanking Leader Visits Admiral Nagano and General Sugiyama

President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of China and concurrently President of the Executive Yuan, accompanied by Chou Lung-hsiang, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, at 9 a.m. Wednesday proceeded to the Omiya Palace to pay his respects to Her Majesty the Empress Dowager.

Dr. Chu Min-yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chou Fo-hai, Vice-President of the Executive Yuan and concurrently Minister of Finance and Mei Hsu-ping, Minister of Commerce and Industry, accompanied by other high officials of the President's suite made three separate courtesy calls at the various residences of the Princes of Blood.

Meanwhile, Her Majesty the Empress Dowager dispatched Kiyoshi Nishimura, Secretary, to the Greater East Asia Guest Hall to return President Wang's courtesy call.

After retiring from the Omiya Palace, President Wang worshipped at the Meiji Shrine in Yoyogi and the Yasukuni Shrine at Kudan before returning to his quarters.

President Wang, accompanied by Foreign Minister Chu Min-yi and other members of his suite, called on Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada at the Navy Ministry at 3:15 p.m. After talking with the Navy Minister for about 20 minutes, President Wang paid a visit to Chief of the Naval General Staff Admiral Osami Nagano. President Wang left the Navy Ministry at 3:45 p.m. and then called on Imperial Household Minister Tsuneo Matsudaira.

Chief of the Army General Staff General Gen Sugiyama and Vice-Chief of the Army General Staff Lieutenant-General Moritake Tanabe also were visited by President Wang at 4:10 p.m. on the same day. When this was done, President Wang called on President of the Privy Council Dr. Yoshimichi Hara. President Wang was guest of a dinner held in his honor by Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo at his official residence at 6:30 p.m.

U.S. Scribe Puts Lens Over F.D.R.

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things Roosevelt has burdened himself with. Carried away by a new impulse, he nominates new officials and creates committees without ever waiting to make sure whether a matter has not already been settled or is being dealt with. This is one explanation for the chaos of committees and commissions in Washington and for the unceasing struggles, hampering the war effort of the United States.

Is Typical Gladhand

Another of the President's characteristics, to conclude sudden friendships, contributes to the general disorder. It rarely happens that he chooses the best equipped man for a post instead of the man whom he likes best. Once he has made his choice, he sticks to it, come what may.

Let us take the case of Donald Nelson for an example. When he was nominated, people believed that the necessity had been recognized to create a standing committee, which was to exert a far-reaching control over all questions, involved in the mobilization of industry. Soon, however, it became apparent that the old organizations continued to exist and in such numbers that poor Nelson could make no move without getting mixed up with somebody's sacred privileges.

A still more striking example is that of Elmer Davis. At first Lowell Mellett, Director of the Office for Government Reports, was to be put in charge of the War Information Office. Before he had time to warm up to his new job, army and navy created their own "Public Relations Bureau," as well as the State Department and the "Office of Emergency Management." This distribution of authority was bound to lead to disorder, whereupon all of a sudden Donovan appeared on the scene as Coordinator of War News.

Next came the office for facts and figures under the direction of McLeish, one of the best friends of the President. In contrast to Donovan, McLeish made a valiant effort to do some coordinating, but because of the lack of any real authority he cheerfully turned to the task of making speeches.

News War Is Scandal

Now it was Elmer Davis' turn as Director of the brand new office for war news. One could not have made a better choice. But when Davis arrived in Washington, what did he find? The fact, that the press offices of the army, the navy and of the State Department were to retain their independence. As the situation is today, the "news war" is a scandal. The costs have already risen to about 27 million dollars per year, not counting the 20 million dollars spent by the various Departments for their press bureaus.

Because of the President's habit to make nomination on the spur of the moment, it is practically impossible to "eradicate" a New Deal agency once it has taken root. Almost overnight an organization spreads from one office over an entire building and increases the number of its employees from five or six to hundreds. This is what Nelson, Davis and other "new brooms" are fighting against. There are so many matters to mend that they do not know where to make a beginning and furthermore they have to be careful not to interfere with the personal interests or decisions of the President.

Frequently undertakings which Congress has expressly forbidden are financed from the President's own pocket. He only believes what he wants to believe and only sees what he wants to see. If allegedly America is only "in the war up to her ankles," it is because of the White House having glossed over the bad news and having laid far too much stress on the good ones.

Visits Meiji Shrine

President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of China and his suite visited the Meiji Shrine on Wednesday to pay their respects.

WRITERS' BODY VOWS SERVICE

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master of ceremonies. At the function, speeches were delivered by Lieutenant-Colonel Katsumi Sasaki, member of the Army Press Section of the Imperial Headquarters, Commander Itaru Tashiro, member of the Navy Press Section of the Imperial Headquarters, Shiro Inouye, chief of the Third Section of the Fifth Division of the Board of Information, Colonel Kingoro Hashimoto, Yoshio Nishina and Masao Kume, all members of the association, who unfolded their determination and aspiration of the association.

Okumura's Speech

The gist of the speech by Vice-President Okumura of the Board of Information follows:

"The War of Greater East Asia has already entered its second year. The war has taken the aspect of a prolonged one and with this, ideological warfare has become more important. The present ideological warfare far outsteps the realm of mere propaganda based on intrigue and technique. It is a mortal feud of conviction against conviction, a feud of world viewpoint against world viewpoint. We must contrive to make the enemy lose their fighting will through the mobilization of the press, magazines, radio, films and all. This is not all. Efforts should be made to correct their mistaken world viewpoint, thereby motivating the enemy to lay down their arms before us. To attain this objective all available energy must be concentrated on the establishment of a profound and grand world viewpoint based on moral principles.

"That Japanese wars are not mere military wars, but always embody a fair and square moral conception just in the sight of Heaven and man has been an immutable fact since the foundation of the Empire. To make clearer this moral conception is to form the basis of bolstering the national esprit de corps and of strengthening the fighting strength. The establishment of such a moral conception and world viewpoint is the mission of those who stand on the foremost line of leadership in public opinion. Of course, the Government is paying all possible attention and energy to this point, but would like your cooperation in attaining this objective.

Speech and Press

"Cries are heard in some quarters that the speech and press are under pressure today, but at no time, I believe, have speech and the press been freer than at present. It is a matter of course that such speech or press that may obstruct the country's war execution should not be permitted to exist at a time when the entire nation is at war. Today, everything must be absolutely concentrated on war. The only road for us is to fight out this war to a successful finish in conformity with the Imperial Rescript declaring war on America and Britain. If we are determined in this way, there will be no lack of freedom in speech and press under any circumstance.

"In order to play an effective role, speech and the press must have a life of their own. Speech and the press should not remain as organs of criticism for the sake of criticism. Speech and the press once uttered and printed are just like arrows off the bow. Those who are interested in them must be responsible for what they speak and write.

"Speech and the press today are no longer a mere vocation. They have a definite and decisive national mission to say the least. If speech and the press, with such a paramount mission, degenerate into a sort of vocation, they will lose their significance and will lose public respect and sympathy.

"There was a time when speech and the press were real mirrors of the public and fulfilled their mission for developing national opinion during the Meiji Era. Affected by the evils of commercialism, however, before and after the outbreak of World War I, speech and the press degenerated into a business ignoring their superb mission. The present offers a capital chance for speech and the press to come back to their original mission when the world is reeling under the flows of unprecedented change.

"However, neither speech nor the press can exist without cooperating with the State. Their mission must be that of the State and nation. Any speech or press pursuing truth under the name of so-called 'freedom,' is not compatible with the achievement of the war objective and attainment of national and racial ideals. The reckless advocacy of 'freedom' is nothing but the ideological intrigue of America and Britain.

"When Japan once was affected by the evils of Confucian ideas and this was about to spoil the interpretation of Japan's fundamental character, pioneers of Japanese literature and learning exclaimed that 'Chinese-mindedness' should be given up. Keenly alive to the prevailing situation in Japan, I believe it a prerequisite for Japanese to forsake 'America-mindedness' and 'Britain-mindedness' from their hearts and to take back 'Yamato-mindedness' quickly."

IMPERIAL DIET TO MEET TODAY

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and satisfied ourselves that our behavior had been in keeping with the resolution we made at the granting of the Imperial Rescript.

"We also gave thought and attention to the matter of a proper future attitude, remembering the character of the war in the light of what had occurred in the first year of the war. We considered in what directions we had to redouble our efforts. In short, we made up our minds to make greater exertions.

"As will be seen from their declarations which have been made by the Empire since the outbreak of the China Affair, the aim of the Empire is a new order in East Asia of a sort under which East Asia will attain its proper status. This is a task which will be successfully completed only when Japan, Manchoukuo and China devote themselves to the work. The matter of forging closer ties of cooperation among the three countries which are to form the mainstay of Greater East Asia is as important as ever and it is one which must ever be present in our minds.

"The matter which is next in importance is to free the various countries within the Greater East Asia Sphere from the Anglo-American yoke so that they may attain their natural and proper places.

World Happiness Is Aim

"It will be complying with the wishes of His Imperial Majesty if we reform those who are responsible for the highly chaotic state of international relations in Europe and America in addition to East Asia and bring about a condition permitting all the nations of the world to live in contentment. Such a world is the ultimate ideal of the Empire. And it is in order to make such a world a reality that the Empire is making every sacrifice.

"In Greater East Asia we have the Manchoukuo Empire, which is determined to share its fortunes with Japan. We have the Republic of China, which is ready to share in the joys and sorrows of Japan and is taking steps for even closer cooperation with Japan in the conduct of the Greater East Asia War. And we have Thailand, which is closely allied with Japan.

"It happens that President Wang Ching-wei of the National Government of China is visiting here. It is understood that he is holding conferences with the leaders of the Japanese Government. I am sure that there will be a marked development in the relationship of Japan and China after President Wang's visit.

"With Thailand a cultural agreement was concluded on December 21. Thus a further tie has been forged between Japan and Thailand. I have a great expectations that Manchoukuo, China and Thailand will collaborate more and more closely with Japan, will be in greater prosperity along with Japan and with Japan form the foundations of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

"In Europe we have Germany and Italy, allies of the Empire, which while keeping in close touch with Japan are fighting heroically to bring about the downfall of our common enemies, America and Britain.

"We see the war, the greatest in history, assuming a phase marked by a succession of decisive battles everywhere it is fought. The war has developed into one which involves armed force, thought and productive power at the same time. Whether there will be a new world, a world from which all vicious American and British influence is eliminated, depends upon the outcome of the present struggle.

War Structure Strengthened

"At home we are occupied with the work of strengthening further the wartime structure and extending vastly our fighting power the basis of the great military results which have been obtained by the Imperial Forces in the first year of the war under the August Virtue of His Majesty the Emperor.

"Abroad we have closer collaboration with the countries allied with the Empire, and we are leaving nothing undone toward achieving the object of the war.

"It was the desire to reform the wartime structure to permit the Empire to be certain of victory in the war that motivated us to bring about the birth of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association which was the result of the concentration of the nation's political power. The association with the Government and the Imperial Rule Assistance Association form a structure permitting the nation to concentrate on the conduct of the war. We members of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association are duty-bound to assist in the management of national affairs in a manner which will enable us to say that we are responding to the gallant officers and men at the front.

"It gives me great pleasure to think that the members of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association have ever since the founding of the organization worked out plans for policies and exerted themselves toward the adoption and enforcement of them by the Government. We developed views on the questions of simplification of the administrative service and reform of the educational system, and had the satisfaction of knowing that the Government was quick to adopt these views.

Matters for Consideration

"The matters to which we feel called upon to give consideration at the present stage of the war are the firm establishment of the wartime economic structure and the realization of all projects which are believed necessary to the successful conduct of the war. Our association some time ago elaborated plans for a wartime economic structure and presented them to the Government. Such is the deep desire of our association to contribute toward the firm establishment of the wartime economic structure.

"Our association has ideas of its own about extending the nation's industrial output, and it is our sincere hope that the Government will be speedily incorporate them into its policies. Needless to say, we will have to examine most closely the various bills the Government expects to present to the coming Diet session. From what has been said by me it will be seen that our discussions will be such as to make a positive contribution to the solution of the execution of the war. Our attitude at the coming session must not be that of following the Government without question. Neither must it be that of patching up matters with the Government. We must deliberate in a manner which will become the members of the Diet in these momentous days. In short, our attitude at the coming session should be that of giving sympathetic encouragement to the Government in the realization of its policies."

An organ of Diet members for handling important affairs on the Diet floor was established Wednesday, when General Nobuyuki Abe, President of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, named 36 floor managers, 36 floor secretaries, and two other commissions. This made complete the personnel of Diet members to whom is left the transactions of important matters.

Yonezo Maeda was appointed head of the managers, who form the nucleus of the Diet session. Tatsunosuke Yamazaki was made chairman of the Diet Bill Investigation Commission and Matajiro Koizumi chairman of the Diet Members Association. The managers consist of the following:

Yonezo Maeda, Kentaro Ayabe, Torataro Ushizuka, Kuranosuke Koyama, Tadao Oasa, Masataka Ota, Taiichi Kato, Ryogoro Kato, Masanori Katsu, Tsuneo Kanemitsu, Suegoro Kawasaki, Shojiro Kawashima, Ichiro Kiyose, Tomoyuki Kusayama, Yoshimichi Kuboi, Makie Koyanagi, Akira Koro, Toshio Shiratori, Shintaro Shindo, Takeo Tanaka, Shichiroku Tanabe, Morihei Takahashi, Yuki Takechi, Kunitoshi Tsukumo, Sadashi Tojo, Setsuo Nakase, Ryutaro Nagai, Toshima Nishikata, Kingoro Hashimoto, Takechiyo Matsuda, Azuma Matsunaga, Kozo Matsumura, Tadao Matsumoto, Hideyuki Miyoshi, Tatsunosuke Yamazaki and Yoshiji Yamamoto.

Imperial Birthday Observed by Pupils Of National Schools

In celebration of the ninth birthday of His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince, boys and girls of the various National Schools in the city of Tokyo and neighboring districts early Wednesday morning marched to the plaza in front of the Imperial Palace and shouted three Banzai for the Crown Prince and prosperity of the Imperial Household. Meanwhile, Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Nobuhito Takamatsu, Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Takahito Mikasa and other Princes and Princesses of the Blood were received by Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress at the Imperial Palace shortly after 9 a.m. Wednesday, when Their Imperial Highnesses offered felicitations on the birthday of the Crown Prince. At 11 a.m. Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress received in audience Tsuneo Matsudaira, Imperial Household Minister, Admiral Saburo Hyakutake, Grand Chamberlain, General Shigeru Hasunuma, Chief Aide-de-Camp to His Imperial Majesty and other high court officials when they proceeded to the Imperial Palace to tender their felicitations on the occasion.

HORI ANALYZES WORLD EVENTS

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ember 11, they advanced into unoccupied France and sent powerful land, sea and air forces to Tunisia. Supported by their superior air arm, the Axis forces immediately took to the counter-offensive while their submarine and air forces began intense operations to cut the supply route of the enemy, thus compelling the Anglo-American forces to retreat as far as the line near Mejez and El Bab. Consequently, the Anglo-American illusion that Tunisia could be taken by the end of the year has been rudely shattered.

The Italo-German forces under Field Marshal Erwin Rommel which have been checking the enemy at the El Ageira line have lately evacuated El Ageira and are moving west toward Tripolitania. Most probably this move is intended to shorten the front and to make the Axis position more strongly tenable.

The air raids on Italy so loudly advertised by Prime Minister Churchill and other Anglo-American quarters have been continued and although damage to the Italian military establishments has been small the losses in lives and property among the Italian people are considerable. The national solidarity of the Italian people has only been strengthened and their morale stiffened by such brutal acts on the part of the enemy. Cooperation between the Germans and Italians has also been enhanced and the acts of terrorism against undefended cities and propaganda aimed at alienating feeling between Axis countries have failed to shake the stamina of the Italo-German camp but only recoiled on the enemy in the form of retaliatory actions.

In contrast to the initial elation of the enemy, Anglo-American propaganda has of late taken to pointing out the great distance separating North Africa from the home bases, difficulties in sending supplies and the superiority of the Italo-German air arm, admitting that the North African campaign would be protracted and thereby seeking to moderate the optimism of the American and British peoples.

Worked for Enemy

At the time of the North African landings by the enemy, Admiral Jean Francois J. Darlan, of France, played an important and extremely useful part on behalf of the enemy and thus left an indelible blot on a page of history by going over to the enemy. Since the Franco-German armistice of 1940, Admiral Darlan under Marshal Philippe Petain had been a member of the Vichy Government and since Pierre Laval became Premier in April this year he served as commander-in-chief of the Army, Navy and Air Force of the French Republic. When the Anglo-American forces led by Major-General Dwight Eisenhower, commander-in-chief of the United States forces in North Africa, landed in Algeria, Admiral Darlan abandoned his 87-year old chief to his fate and, in disregard of Marshal Petain's order to defend the French colony, at once opened armistice negotiations with the enemy, as a result of which he was appointed by Major-General Eisenhower High Commissioner for French Africa and he organized an Empire Assembly composed of General Emile Nogues, Governor-General Pierre Boisson and other rebels. General Henri Giraud, who had escaped from Germany this year and gained popularity among the French people, has been placed in command of the armed forces. Thus the organization of the puppet regime is steadily progressing.

The party most astonished by this turn of affairs was General Charles de Gaulle, the so-called chairman of the rebel committee, refugee in London. At the time of the Franco-German armistice in 1940, he urged the French Government to retire to its African colony and continue resistance against Germany and Italy from there and when his recommendation was rejected he fled to London, where he gained the support of the British Government to call to the French colonies for continued resistance. Although his recommendation would have been suicidal for France if carried out, at least General de Gaulle is a man of a one-track mind, an honest man, not to be compared with the turncoat opportunist Admiral Darlan. However, De Gaulle is not generally popular and, moreover, lacks political experience and ability. The only reason of the British Government for supporting him is that it cannot find any other suitable person to cope with the situation.

Under such circumstances, that Government is recognizing De Gaulle's present position. That is all and nothing else. To demonstrate this, when Britain invaded Madagascar, it did not take counsel with the De Gaulle regime at all. Another plight in which that pseudo regime finds itself is the fact that the United States takes no heed of the former's frequent pleadings that the lease-lend measure be applied to it. The situation being such as it is, the De Gaulle regime is highly dissatisfied with the cool and indifferent attitude of America and Britain.

Another Puppet Regime

To complete the catalogue of evils, another puppet French regime has recently been founded in North Africa, as a result of illicit deals between the American force which invaded North Africa and Admiral Darlan, fraying De Gaulle's nerves still further. De Gaulle has kept barking at the Darlan regime against the British advices and at the same time is imploring the British Government to turn the tide in its favor.

Because the De Gaullists have considerable power in Central Africa and because it has looked after them for over two years, Britain can not at this time throw them overboard without adequate reason. And it does not regard with any calmness the fact that the anti-British Darlan has tied-up with America and is attempting to lower his roots in North Africa. On the other hand, however, it is far more profitable to Britain in order to gain the favor of the French people to make use of the Darlan-Giraud combination. And neither can it refuse completely to recognize it because behind it is America. Thus Britain has been pushed into an uncomfortable corner.

And America, although it cannot be known whether it is doing so because it has feared that the Anglo-American disgrace will come out into the open or because Britain has pleaded for it, has made declarations that the agreement with Darlan was only temporary, that it was made for military convenience and that it had no connection with the problem of the reversion of French Africa. America has thus been working to alleviate the situation and Britain too has been taking various measures such as giving the administrative power in Madagascar to the De Gaullists. However, according to an explanation made by Churchill in a secret meeting of parliament recently, the conflict between Darlan and De Gaulle, in other words between America and Britain, rages under the surface more violently than ever and it can be expected to come to the surface and show its ugliness at every opportunity.

However, this struggle between America and Britain is a problem which will die a natural death with the recovery of the North African area by the Axis forces and can be said to be a case of counting the pelts before the game is taken. Compared to the further serious situation confronting the two nations it can be regarded as merely a small derivative incident.

In August last year, Churchill and Roosevelt met in mid-ocean and formed the so-called Atlantic Charter in which they listed non-invasion of territory, self-determination of all peoples, freedom of trade and others, altogether 8 highly idealized points, and made it appear as though the two countries were fighting to realize these joint ideals. It is more than apparent that America and Britain did not intend to carry out these points. They merely built up a fantasy of words concerning the lands already occupied by the Axis Forces and which they could never hope to regain and tried to call up on and draw to their side the various states in the world. And when India, a nation under their control, made use of the charter and demanded that they give India a government desired by the Indians they could not help but reveal that this so-called charter did not have any actual value. That the charter is made up of words which mean nothing can be seen by the fact that as early as the beginning of September last year Churchill himself stated that the self-determination of peoples as specified by the charter was applicable only to European nations and that it could not be applied to India.

Seeks Status Quo

After all, what Britain wants is to maintain the British Empire as it has existed up till now and to recover its power. For that purpose it will manipulate and make use of America, Russia and any other nation; and for that it will lie, appease, and do anything. To gain its ends, it does not care what methods it uses.

America, on the other hand, plans to make use of this war and to set up a political, economic control over the whole world, of course including Britain, and to become even if it does not actually own all the territory, the one and only real dictator reigning in the world. Why America calls itself the arsenal of our enemies and produces huge amounts of armaments which it sends out to other countries saying that it does not require payment, and why it has caused an unnecessary war to arise forcing its people to pay huge sacrifices and sending its men to the British Isles, to Iceland, to Africa, to India, to Syria, and others can be understood only when one sees that all is based on this vast sinister design. Herein lies the deep gulf which prevents America and Britain from ever coming together. In other words the British dream of the revival of its empire and the American design or hope to control the world are forever clashing in bitter conflict.

The American popular magazine Life has recently lighted the fuse of this problem and that man Willkie has fanned the flame.

Open Letter Written

In its October 12 issue Life carried an open letter to the British people in which it declared, "If Britain does not feel grateful that America is using vast amounts of money to supply weapons, and if Britain only attempts to save its empire at the sacrifice of its allies, then it will lose America's sympathy and in the end will be defeated." And Willkie, who has in the past received favors from Life, joined in and asserted in a broadcast, "The British colonies are now merely the remains of the British empire. If Britain does not abolish colonies and give freedom to India, the Indians and the various races of East Asia will not do as Britain wishes."

From the first the British have considered it natural that America should fight for Britain because America owes much historically and culturally to Britain. And they have felt an antipathy against the Americans who arrogantly have been pointing to the leasing and lending of weapons as a special favor to Britain. Thus it could not be expected that the British would keep silent toward these wild words written and uttered by Americans. And as a matter of fact it would not be necessary for Britain to fight on this war if it could bear the dismemberment of its empire.

Thus on November 10, Churchill answered by saying, "The objectives of the present British operations lie in the fulfillment of the glory and duty of the holder of rights. Britain does not aspire to expand or gain more territories but is determined to maintain what it has. I did not become Prime Minister to dismember the British empire."

Whereupon Willkie opened wide his mouth again and bombastically shouted, "The ideals of the Atlantic Charter cannot be realized unless our allies agree on its objectives. A realization of the ideals of the charter cannot be hoped for when Britain, one of the leading makers of the charter, issues a declaration that it will continue to maintain the imperialistic old order."

Theoretically victory went to Willkie, but the great weakness in his assertion was that he forgot that whatever the clauses in the charter be, the American government was going ahead steadily in carrying out its world policy. And it is ironical that the stone cast by Life created an unexpectedly great reaction and that it revealed the ugly relationship between America and Britain.

Concerning this disturbance the London Times toward the end of November declared editorially, "Willkie's speech cannot be regarded merely as abuse delivered in order to gain internal popularity. It is the traditionally American anti-imperialistic ideology coming to the fore and thus a mere address by Churchill will not remove the feeling of doubt held by them. On the other hand, however, Britain too has a feeling of doubt toward America. That doubt is this: In recent days America has grown more confident that it is the most powerful nation in the world. And we wonder if America will really use its power after the war to free the conquered peoples of the world. But if it will not use its great power for this objective then it must be regarded that America's war of words and the war of arms are merely in preparation for the realization of its world policy.

"Some time ago, American ambassador to London John G. Winant said that more than any other problem there was a deep difference of opinion regarding Britain's colonial policy. These feelings of doubt held toward each other are what constitute the greatest barrier to cooperation between the two nations." Thus did the London Times recognise honestly and directly the feeling of doubt held by the British toward America.

In this manner there is a serious discord between America and Britain but their struggle is not a fundamental, ideological clash such as that between the Axis nations and Anglo-America. Theirs is a serious clash arising over the desire to gain. And both of them are united upon the point of Anglo-Saxon world supremacy and according to how the situation develops there is room for compromise. It goes without saying that we must not feel easy because of the clash between America and Britain.

Today's Press Comments

(Continued From Page 1)

assume the character of one called for the discussion only of measures for the increase of fighting power. The behavior of the Diet at the coming session will furnish the standard by which to decide the degree of the correctness of the attitude of the country in dealing with the War of Greater East Asia which has developed into a complicated and complex affair.

In this connection it is noteworthy that some members of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association are clamoring for reforms in the association which would permit the Diet to be more efficient in the dispatch of its business.

FALL OF HONGKONG IS TOLD BY OFFICER

Commander Noguchi Recalls Action of Brave Japanese Soldiers in Crushing British

A year ago on December 25, Hongkong, British citadel for East Asiatic aggression, fell. This is a historical date because the fall of Hongkong meant lowering of the Union Jack, and the wholesale exodus of British influence from East Asia.

A Domei correspondent called upon Unit Commander Shuzo Noguchi at his home in Aichi Prefecture to hear about the Hongkong invasion. Unit Commander Noguchi was the commander of the unit which effected landing on Hongkong before the enemy fire.

His account follows:

"Surrender or fight! Our forces silently watched the motor-boat which carried Colonel Tata and his men return from the enemy quarters across the channel. As the motor-boat approached our shore the rumble of its engine became distinct. Colonel Tata's face was firm—in fact, it betrayed anger.

"As for myself, I immediately guessed that our advice to the Hongkong authorities to surrender was rejected, and that we were forced to attack. A general attack on the fortified island of Hongkong was set for December 17.

"As soon as the impressive instructions from the Army Corps Commander were completed on the following morning, the first crossing of the channel commenced. I was assigned to the right wing of the offensive line we were to take. Just before starting off, I heard my men whisper, we must get over there, even though we die.

"From the northern sector of our objective, great smudges of smoke rose skyward from the blazing oil tanks. Sunken enemy vessels with protruding unsightly red bellies filled Victoria causeway.

"As soon as our boat succeeded in the risky landing on one section of the shell-battered cliff, a hurricane of fusillades poured upon us from all directions. Undaunted our death-defying men, one by one, crawled up the crags like lizards. All the while the enemy fire was showered upon us incessantly. We rushed toward enemy tochkas. It was a death-defying charge!

"After we had captured the enemy position, our task was to repulse the enemy's counter-offensive while the second and third crossings of our contingents were effected. They all crossed successfully.

"This was the contributing factor which caused the fall of Hongkong. That landing operation can be attributed to the vigorous day and night training of the Imperial Forces. It was due to such superhuman landing operations that the British dared to resist by force despite our advice to surrender, were compelled to doff his hat and surrender. We were deeply moved on the day when Hongkong fell."

VOLUME ON BUDDHISM IS PRESENTED TO WANG

Baron Kibe Publishes Book On History of Buddhist Relations With China

Baron Koji Kibe, Chief Priest of the Kibe School of the Shinshu Buddhist Sect, personally will present to Wang Ching-wei, President of the National Government of China, his original volume on the history of Buddhistic relations between Japan and China entitled "Japanese Culture and Ancient Chinese Sages," at the Imperial Hotel today.

Baron Kibe recently arrived here from Shiga Prefecture especially to make the presentation.

After overcoming various difficulties and hardships to collect necessary data during the past several years, Baron Kibe recently has succeeded in publishing the invaluable book containing the Chinese characters which were written by President Wang Ching-wei on his second visit to Japan last year.

It is recalled that Baron Kibe had been encouraged in his gigantic task by Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo and Prince Fumimaro Konoye, as well as Buddhist devotees who enthusiastically donated a fund amounting to ¥20,000 for the publication of the book.

British Officer Shot

LISBON.—The military attache of the British Embassy in Washington, Captain Michael Crawford, was found shot in his Washington apartment, according to a dispatch received here. No details about the shooting have been disclosed.

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HONGKONG BATTLE RECALLED

Only Battered Pill Boxes Bear Testimony to Fury Of Campaign—Japanese Forces Took British Fortress in Only 18 Days

Hongkong which the British had made their stronghold for the last 100 years during their encroachment on China, fell into the hands of the Japanese Forces within 18 days of the commencement of the offensive on the city, and became a territory under Nippon control. Exactly a year has elapsed since the historic surrender of Hongkong, and a vivid first-hand account of the visit to the old battle grounds is given by Domei as follows:

Standing on the spot where the Imperial Forces made their landing on the Hongkong island, one can see to its east the Liyuimen Fort, and northward, separated by the sea, the Chingteh air fields of Kowloon. A little westward on the extremity of the Kowloon Peninsula are the station and the tall building of Toa Hotel.

New Life Returns

The northern corner of the city being the factory section, wherefrom the clank of the hammers at the dockyards and the hum of motors from the oil refineries and sugar factories come crowding on a visitor's ears it denotes his reconstruction of Hongkong. In the capacious pool on the eastern section of the beach, a bunch of people could be discerned, enjoying the balmy warmth blowing from the southern regions, bespeaking of the return of a peaceful new life to this harbor city. Only the battered remnants of pill-boxes, scattered here and there on the beach, with marks of dark smoke from guns that shattered them, bore witness to the fierceness of the battle when the Imperial Forces made their landing.

The aweful and terrific scenes of the night of the past year returned to our mind's eye as we quietly contemplated. On that memorable night, standing on a hill near the Kowloon beach, we could see northward heavy clouds hung low and racing menacingly across the horizon, with light rain. The oil tank, just a little to the west, had been burning for several days, set on fire due to shells from the Japanese, and the black smoke covered the sky moving sluggishly toward north.

The enemy, discerning our plan, directed two beams of searchlight on the shore as they opened a terrific volley of shots. But the courageous men of the Imperial Forces, undaunted in the face of the enemy offensive from the Liyuimen Fort, pressed toward the Hongkong Island. A part of the forces set on for the capture of the Jardens observation fort and the Nicholson hill.

In collaboration with forces who had taken positions above the hills, the Japanese Forces in the foothills, captured the race tracks, in defiance of the demoniac firing of the enemy guns. Preparations were next completed to make a push through the city streets, but the enemy surrendered at this juncture on December 25 on the occasion of the hundred-and-first of the Hongkong Island.

Race Track Reopened

The race tracks were reopened in March to the great joy of the inhabitants of the city, who exclaimed "Amusements have returned to Hongkong." With the exception of the summer season, every Saturday and Sunday, horse races are held on the tracks, thus providing a thrilling form of amusement for Hongkong dwellers.

When we went up further toward Aobakyo, we were confronted with a steeper and more winding path. Every slope seemed to have been utilized by the enemy in constructing pill-boxes while the hillside across the valley was strongly defended. It is evident that the British, three years ago, took a great deal of trouble in strengthening the defense of that area. They had constructed wire-entanglements and trenches in every conceivable spot which they had imagined might be used as a landing place by the enemy. Furthermore, they built camouflaged pill-boxes and large air-raid shelters in the suburban districts and in the seaside resorts. Having thus defended the city, they boasted they could easily stand a siege from six months to one year. Their boast was exploded within 18 days when the Japanese commenced their relentless attack. It is easily imaginable from the results how terrific and magnificent the Nippon's attack was.

At a spot near Aobakyo, in a grave-stone set in memory of the fallen heroes who were killed in that vicinity is still standing. After paying our deepest homage to the souls of the war-dead and saluting the sentinels, we ascended a steep elevation, finally reaching a stop, from where we could look over the entire ground below. Aobakyo was covered thick with autumn shrubs, and perfect silence reigned. Round the water-filtering place can be seen numerous pill-boxes in a state of destruction. It happend that when the Japanese Forces marched into that district, the enemy dispatched reinforcements after reinforcements by automobiles. Thus with reinforced forces the enemy commenced firing from their position on Nicholson Mountain, against the Japanese who were then marching on the Aobakyo path. Here right on this spot the fiercest battle in the record of the Japanese attack on Hongkong took place.

The battle fought in Aobakyo could have never been won without the bloodshed of the gallant Japanese soldiers. During the battle the members of the engineer corps, each carrying bomb, approached the pill-boxes and blasted them one after another. A certain Canadian Commander met his death in one of those pill-boxes. The enemy continued their resistance as long as they could, but in face of the valiant Japanese soldiers they could not but give up their arms.

Pill-Boxes There

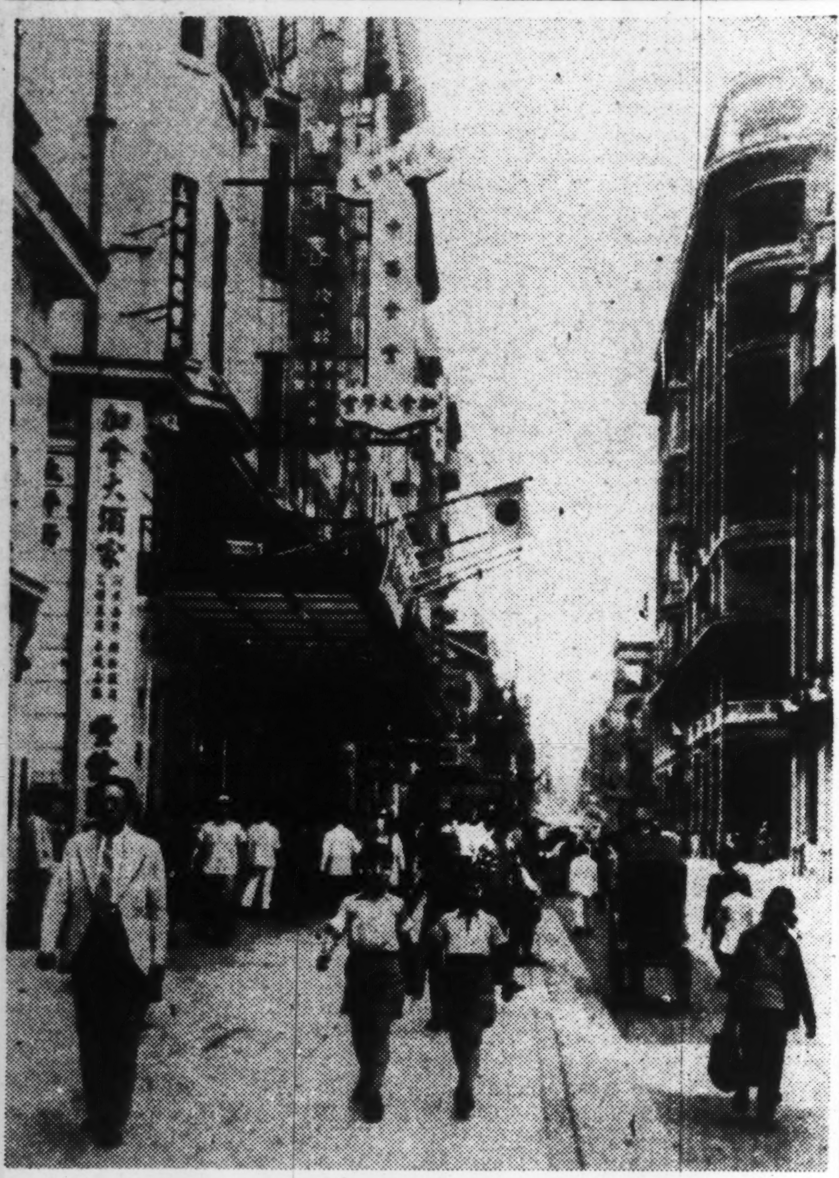
In Aobakyo, destroyed pill-boxes are heaps of ruins containing iron-helmets, shoes, and numberless ironscraps. They are scattered among layers of dead leaves. All these sights bore eloquent witness to the relentlessness of the battle.

Walking along the winding path on the hillside of Nicholson Mountain, one comes across numerous grave-posts erected in memory of the Japanese fallen heroes, and it is not seldom to find memorial towers for the enemy's war-dead. The mountain path is now monopolized by the Army, and otherwise only used by those who visit the old battlefields. While passing through it, we were gripped with a weird feeling which seemed to reign the entire area. Words fail to express the feeling we experienced when we found ourselves in the prevailing tranquillity.

The Japanese Forces first occupied Nicholson Mountain then Kimberlin Mountain. Then they further closed up on the enemy by occupying one mountain ridge after another. Just when the Japanese were ready to pounce upon the enemy with their fiercest might, they put up their white flag. Thus the enemy in spite of their starchy resistance were doomed to surrender.

Upon the highest peak, we found a post which indicated the place being allotted for the construction of a memorial tower for the fallen heroes whose soul will forever look down the city of Hongkong and the waters of the South Sea. The two huts built atop Kimberlin Mountain by the enemy were completely destroyed by shells, but the water barrow with shell marks are to be removed and be placed in front of the memorial tower upon its construction.

Peaceful Hongkong Scene



Secure under the protection of the Rising Sun Banner, and with rehabilitation work in full swing, the erstwhile British stronghold of Hongkong is today, only one year following its capture by the Imperial Forces, an oasis of peace and prosperity in East Asia. Above scene shows the main thoroughfare of the island.

MALAI WOMEN HAVE ATTRACTIVE TRAITS

Study of Nipponese Ardently Being Pursued—Customs Described by Writer

Ineko Kubokawa, a well-known woman writer, sends to Domei an interesting report of her visit to a Japanese language school in Malai and also gives us some insight into the women of Malai. She says:

"I visited a Malai girls' school in the small town of Batu Pahat in Johore Province. The school was said to have been formerly an English language school for girls and was quite a pretentious looking school situated on a hilltop. The principal was an old Japanese lady of 67 years.

Studying Japanese

"Lessons had ended for the day and the children had gone home, when we visited the school. However, in a classroom upstairs, the principal was teaching Japanese to some ten Malai women. The white-haired principal, with her hair cut short, was a small woman with refined features. She wore a white suit. She gazed at us through dark-rimmed Lloyd glasses. She seemed to have lost all her teeth, and she mumbled as she spoke Malai in her teaching of Japanese.

"Her pupils, wearing loose sarongs reaching to their feet, sat two together at a desk. They wore more subdued colored blouses compared to those worn by the wives of the sultans, and appeared very neat. However, they adorned themselves with so much gold chains and other jewelry, that there seemed to be no room for any more ornaments. But the look of modesty in their dark brown faces gave them an air of intellectuality. From prewar days, they were elementary school teachers, we were told. By intellectual, I do not mean they had the liveliness of a working woman, but probably due to their attire, they diffused a gentleness like that of a court lady. Surely, their standard of living is not low.

"The name of the old woman principal, a graduate of the Atami Girls' School in Tokyo was Yoshi Ono. Together with her husband, for 30 years they had operated a rubber plantation in this region. Losing her husband and two children, this woman's lot was not a happy one, but having found her mission in life, she is devoting the remainder of her life, diligently and happily, to her work.

"Principal Ono said something in Malai, pointing to one of her pupils, who immediately stood up and wrote on the blackboard in katakana 'Akachan wa akai kimono o suki desu.' Then Principal Ono made the correction that 'kimono o' should be 'kimono ga.' Their Japanese pronunciations were quite fair. Three bracelets encircled each arm of the Malai woman who wrote the Japanese characters on the blackboard. I was told that all these women were married, and also mothers of several children. Such would be but natural, as Malai women married when they reached the age of 15. These women, holding their work as school teachers, were intelligent enough to manifest an attitude of modesty, which rendered them all the more beautiful. Probably, these school teachers, gaily decorated as they were, possessed a friendliness and intimacy of the old 'teragoya' schools of Japan.

Attractive Appearance

"The Malai women, like their sisters all over the world, come attired in their very best, when making their appearance at theaters or other public places. On the Malai Peninsula, the population chiefly consists of Chinese. There are also Indians, Malais, and especially in Shonanto, a large number of Eurasians.

"The movies and plays are divided into two classifications; Chinese plays and Indian movies. When I attended an Indian movie, the Indian women occupying the dress circle seats were gorgeously attired. Wearing clothes brocaded with heavy gold and silver threads, they presented a gayer appearance than the acrobatic stunt girls on the stage. No distinction was made here between the men's and women's section; all sat where they liked.

"I had heard that the sultans were permitted to have four wives, by the Mohammedan faith, but the two sultans I met had only one wife, although divorce and marriage were looked on very leniently among the upper classes.

"Once when I went to a Malai restaurant to have some Malai food, two Malai men attired in smart European clothing, sat at the next table. Their well groomed hair, and the thin line of well cared for moustaches bespoke their urban life. On being served a dish of curry and rice, they stuck three fingers of their right hand into the rice, then stirring up the mixture, commenced to eat it. They poured the curry on the rice with their left hand with a spoon, and very deftly manipulated the food into their mouth with the three fingers of the right. As they were so perfectly attired, this half-barbaric table manners struck me as being strange. Glancing over the other tables, I found others using their fingers, too. At a table in the rear, a very stylishly-dressed young lady was also carrying the food to her mouth with her fingers. I noticed also, that, as this young lady rose to leave, she was tall and slender, wearing smart looking shoes and carrying a well-made crocodile skin handbag."

TRADE UNIONS DENOUNCED

U.S. Maritime Commission Chief Voices Strong Opposition

LISBON.—"All trade union officials ought to be shot at dawn," Rear-Admiral Emory S. Land, Chairman of the U. S. Maritime Commission, declared at a meeting of American bankers, according to a Washington report.

Philip Murray, President of the Congress of Industrial Organization, described the plan of trade unions as a dangerous assault against American national unity.

The President of the Seamen's Union, Curran, on the other hand, demanded that Rear-Admiral Land be immediately removed from office as he was impeding the United States shipping program.

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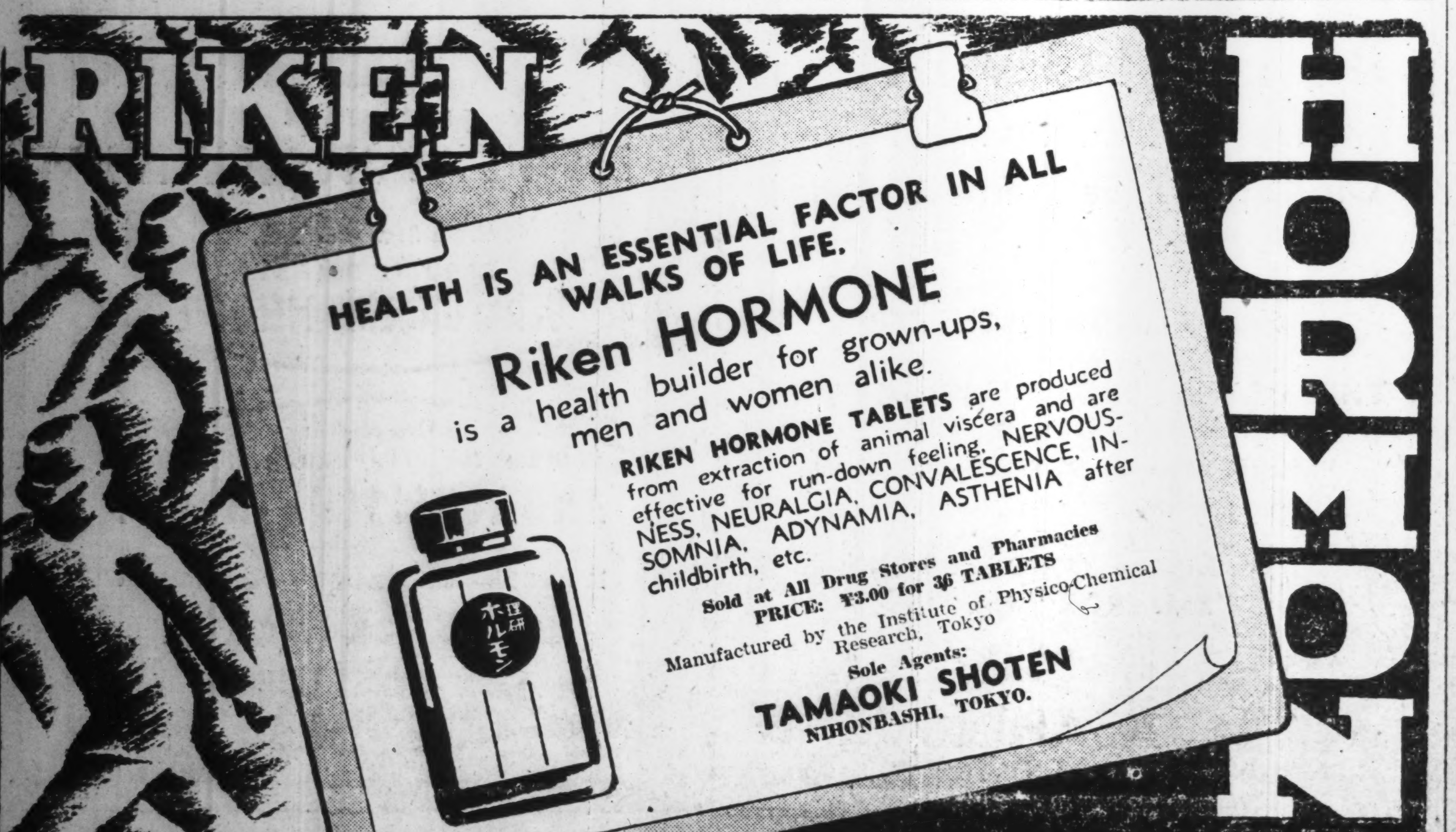

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U.S. IS BUSY MAKING FAKE WAR MOVIES

Chinese Actors Employed for Japanese Roles in Photo-Play 'Wake Island'

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Japan Times Advertiser)

BUENOS AIRES, December 19.—Since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the American film production companies have been desperately producing newsreels based on the theme "battles in the Pacific," as a means of propaganda within America and other countries.

Recently, the Paramount Company completed a dramatic play, "Wake Island." This play is highly fictitious, and is an extremely poor attempt on the part of the Americans to upstir the hostile feelings of the public against Japan. At present, this film is being screened in Buenos Aires. In this play, a Chinese actor appears in the character of Ambassador Saburo Kurusu. All the scenes rotate around the island, including Ambassador Nomura's visit to the island, and the scenes of attacks by the Japanese Forces. This is the first dramatic play based on the theme, "battles in the Pacific."

The first one-third of the play is centered around the actual proceedings of the battle, and proceeds with the attack by the Japanese Forces. Several scenes depict the aerial activities of the Japanese Air corps, and the final landing of the Japanese Forces amid the exchange of shells. Those scenes show how "bravely" the American marine corps attempted counter-attacks against the Japanese, until their last man so killed, and the island is occupied by the Japanese Forces. The play reaches its climax in the scenes where the American marine corps attempts its death-struggle against the Japanese Forces for many successive weeks.

The films on Wake Island were produced by the Paramount Company with the cooperation and advice of the American Marine corps. The western coast was utilized for the background of the picture. Despite the fact that the American marine corps is boasting that it has exerted every means possible in reproducing the actual battle scenes, nothing can be more remote from the truth than those battle scenes, abundant with tricks and distorted lies. Even Americans will not be beguiled by the incredible scenario of the play, because they are well informed as to the whereabouts of those American marines, previously stationed in Wake Island. Americans are familiar with the final outcome of the battle, in which most of the marines were taken prisoners and they also know that those prisoners are now leading peaceful and safe lives in Japan Proper.

Concert Calendar

The 26th Concert of the Kosei Bunka, sponsored by the Kokusai Bunka Gakuin, Friday, December 25, matinee at 1 p.m., and soiree at 5:30 p.m., at the Kyoritsu Kodo. The soloists include Miss Ayako Yamamoto, violin, accompanied by Miss Toshiko Seto, at the piano; Madame Fumiko Yotsuya, alto, accompanied by Miss Sonoko Hoshina at the piano, and Miss Haruko Fujita, piano. The feature of the program, dance performance by the Masuda Takashi Ballet Troupe, including Miss Ryuko Umezono and others.

Taijiro Goh's and his pupil's new symphonic compositions played by the Shochiku Symphony Orchestra, directed by Goh and his pupils, Friday, December 25, at 5 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Soloists include Miss Mary-Estelle Iwamoto, violin; Miss Hiroko Kaneko, alto. Chorus by the Shikokai Chorus group.

The fourth concert sponsored by the Sankyo Association under the direction of Naotada Yamamoto, with an all-piano program, Saturday, December 26., at 2 p.m., at the Sanshi Kaikan. Soloists include Miss Masako Kanematsu, Miss Haruko Fujita and others.

A Nippon-Germany-Italy Friendship Concert sponsored by the Jochi Daigaku Sobi-kai Society, in cooperation with the Italian Friends Association and the Nichi-Doku-I-Shinzen Association, Saturday, December 26, at 6 p.m., at the Sangyo Kaikan. Soloists include Yoshie Fujiwara, tenor, Miss Takako Mikami, soprano. Chorus by the Orphois Chorus of Jochi Daigaku and the German School Chorus.

A special concert by the Nippon Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Kazuo Yamada, Saturday and Sunday, December 26 and 27, at 7 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Soloists include Miss Harue Miyake, soprano; Madame Fumiko Yotsuya, alto; Tamotsu Kinoshita, tenor and Keikichi Yatabe, bass. The chorus by the Tokyo Koto Ongaku Gakko and Tamagawa Gakuen chorus members. Program includes Yasuji Kiyose's Nippon Festival Suite and Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D Minor.

A vocal recital by Yoshie Fujiwara, tenor, with program of contemporary Nipponese songs, assisted by Tadashi Yasukawa, at the piano, Monday, December 28, at 6:30 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Numbers composed by Kosaku Yamada, Kiyoshi Nobutoki, Kosuke Komatsu, Tei Yanada, Ryutaro Hirota, Shimizu Fujii, Shimpei Nakayama, Haseo Sugiyama, Kunihiko Hashimoto, Tsugio Tsuyuki, Shiro Fukai, Shukichi Mitsukuri, Fumihiko Fukui, Toroko Takagi and Yasuki Hirai will be interpreted by the artist.

A light music concert, Tuesday, January 5, matinee at 1 p.m., and soiree at 6 p.m., at the Kyoritsu Kodo. Musicians include Haida Brothers, Miss Noriko Awaya, Kiyoshi Sakurai, Taro Shoji and others.

A light music concert in celebration of the victories of the Nippon Army and Navy, sponsored by the Sanwa-kai Society, Saturday, January 9, at 6 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall. Artists include Haida Brothers and Minami-no-Gakudan and Miss Noriko Awaya and her band and Kiyoshi Sakurai and his band.

Malai Girls Are Ardent Pupils

Ever since the occupation of the Malai Peninsula by the Imperial Forces, the womenfolk have been enthusiastically absorbing the Japanese language, and the tongue is becoming more popular day by day. Top photo shows quartette of studious Malai girls absorbed in their lesson books, while a stroll in a cocoanut grove is the natural title of the picturesque scene at bottom.

Concert Reviews

By "ONAMUN—MSA"

LEONID KREUTZER:

[illegible]th of a Series of Pianoforte Concerts was given at the Hibiya Public Hall Monday evening. The program was as follows:—Beethoven-Sonata in C major, Op. 53 (Walstein); Sonata quasi una fantasia in c sharp minor, Op. 27 No. 2 (Moonlight) by Beethoven; Four Ballades by Chopin (g minor, Op. 23; F major, Op. 38; A flat major, Op. 47; f minor, Op. 52); and, selections from Liszt (a) Etude de (concert D flat major, (b) Au bord d'une source, (c) Gnomenreigen, (d) Liebestraum, and (e) Rakoczy Marsch.

The program was opened with the Beethoven-Sonata in C major generally known as "Waldstein." This one of the most serene and poetic Sonatas of Beethoven's is at once the boldest (harmonically) and the profoundest (conceptionally) in the Adagio molto (Introduzione). An imperceptible crescendo introduced by Kreutzer in the main Theme of repeated quaver-notes gives the whole Sonata "a name and a habitation"; because, like the four repeated crotchet-notes on the Timpani at the outset of the Violin-Concerto, or the ascending-scales of the beginning of the 7th Symphony, no composer has ever foretold so much in so simple a means.

Every Passage Clear

In Kreutzer's playing of the Sonata, how every passage stood out clearly in silhouette of romance and tranquillity with due perspective to the general out-line, (which is a pure lyric.) His deliberate emphasis of the low C in the Rondo was quite significant, because it would give a kind of retrospect to the whole movement in relation to the opening figure of the introduction. Even the glissando octave passage sounded not a mere virtuosoic display, but begot a deeper meaning; it was like the efflorescence of a pent up sentiment.

A pianist who could bring a new light to the Sonata quasi una fantasia in c sharp minor, Op. 27 No. 2 is a truly great artist. One has heard so much about this "Moonlight" Sonata, despite its unsurpassed beauty, one has a tendency to regard it with something like contempt (but not quite) owing to one's familiarity with so many indifferent renditions of this Sonata. The "Moonlight" has taken quite a new guise and a glow under this artist's hands, unfolding a quiet drama and an almost transcendent reflection in the Adagio sostenuto (though, one would have wished for a thought more "faltering" tempo), and a glimpse of sunshine (Allegretto) between the two dismal forebodings culminating in the Presto agitato with an outburst of repressed urgings.

It was noteworthy how Kreutzer gave those crotchet-rests their due place in the Allegretto, which were so often blurred and treated so scantily. Also, his treatmtnt of the two quaver-chords (a rhythmic figure) at the end of a two-bar theme of arpeggios was noteworthy; one of them is marked Sf (Sfz), which means more accented or emphasized (Sforzando) but not forte, as so many pianists are wont to fancy and, worse still, put it into practice!

Performances Commendable

Chopin's Four Ballades followed. These have been vulgarized and "vandalized" beyond recognition by so many pianists and so often all over the world. Thus, it was most gratifying to hear such wonderful performances of the Ballades at last Monday evening's. The one in G minor, full of dramatic ardency, sounded a vortex of sensuous dejection in the highest degree; while the one in A flat was graceful and full of enchantment. The one in F major again showed a violent emotional agitation in a haven of desires; while the one in F minor seemed to haunt the very hermitage of one's innermost feeling, and perhaps the greatest of the Four Ballades.

It was Liszt who "had flung the Stone that did put the Stars of Clementi-Chopin-Thalberg piano-tradition to Flight" with his bold evangelism of pianoforte-playing. He was the first great pagan to break through the pianistic-faith, the trinity of gods, touch, tone and technique. He threw into the rut of complacent piano-playing tradition the fire of sonority, power and dynamic variety and the utmost development of the orchestra effect on the pianoforte. This was exemplified in Kreutzer's playing of the Rakoczy Marsch. Somewhat hackneyed "Liebestraum" gained a fresh guise of nobility, because it was played without shallow sentimentality. The beautiful Etude de concert (D flat major) and the colorful "Au bord d'une source" and "Gnomenreigen" were played with an incisive tone ad dynamic shades of particular distinction. The whole evening was very impressing.

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AIR DEFENSE STORY PLANNED BY STUDIOS

Shochiku, Daiyei and Toho to Release Pictures on Army Day Next March

To call public attention on air defense, the Shochiku, Daiyei and Toho, three major dramatic film producing companies, have decided to produce special pictures based on the air defense science. Discussions with the Army Press Section of the Imperial Headquarters will be made in connection with their respective plans. It is expected that the contemplated films will be released on and around March 10 next year, by taking advantage of Army Day, which falls on March 10.

In view of the importance of educational films for class room use, the Education Ministry will hold a conference today with the officials concerned and civilian producers of the Japan Eigasha, at which discussions will be centered on several cultural features such as "Rice, Sugar and Tea of Taiwan," "Hokkaido's Maritime Products," and "The Pulp Industry in Karafuto."

Following a recent meeting held between the officials and judge committeemen of the War, Navy, Home and Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministries and the Board of Information, three motion pictures have been officially selected as the cultural films to be sent to the Southern Regions. They are "Victory of East Asia," "Record of the Victories by the Imperial Navy," and "Song of Nippon and Flower of Patriotism."

Out of the numerous domestic pictures, 17 dramatic and cultural pictures have tentatively been selected as the officially endorsed productions by the Education Ministry recently. Of these, those which are most likely to win the Education Minister's prize will be "The Battles of Hawaii and Malaya," "The General, Staff Officer and Soldiers," "Mother and Her Children," "God-Sent Fighters of The Air," and "The Battle Diary of Malaya."

The ever-increasing popularity of Nippon made pictures in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere has been proved with the recent showing of "The Blue Sky of Hopes," which was made in Bangkok with triumphant success, according to word received here by the Nippon Eigasha.

"Musume Dojoji," one of the popular classical Kabuki dances, will be filmed by the Daiyei studio. All preparations have been made at the Kyoto studio under the direction of Tatsunosuke Shimizu. The central figure of this screen play will be Nakamura Tomijuro, famed Kabuki actor of old "Nippon" whose brilliant stage life will be dramatized.

2-DAY MARATHON RACE SLATED FOR COLLEGIANS

Sports enthusiasts will open the New Year with a two-day marathon race between the Yasukuni Shrine and the Hakone Shrine in Kanagawa Prefecture which is scheduled on January 5 and 6 under the auspices of the Kanto Students' Track Association.

The course will cover a round-trip of 230 kilometers and will be run in 10 relays, the first group leaving Kudan Hill at 8 a.m. on January 5.

Participants from 11 universities and colleges, including Chuo, Hosei, Keio, Nippon, Rikkyo, Senshu, Takushoku, Bunrika, Nogyo, Waseda and Aoyama Gakuin, are expected to cross the finish line around 2 p.m. the following day.

BOND ABSORPTION BRISK

People of Tokyo Cooperating Actively With Government

Government bonds totaling ¥71,200,000 and patriotic bonds totaling ¥42,950,000 as well as other war bonds, which the Government allotted to the metropolitan area for December absorption, have been almost completely assimilated with the first three weeks of this month, reflecting the mounting patriotism of the Tokyoites to cooperate financially with the Government in prosecuting the war, it was disclosed.

The local banks, according to the Finance Ministry, are flooded with orders for Government bonds.

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Theatrical Notes

By Tsunejiro Amakata

With two different programs daily, the Kabukiza will present a gala performance of Kabukiza plays, starting January 2. The curtain raiser for the matinee will be "Sugawara Denju Tenarai Kagami," or The Loyalty of Triplets, with Kikugoro Onoye and Kichiyemon Nakamura in the stellar cast. Kikugoro's favorite dance called "Fujimusume" (Girl with Wisteria Flowers) will come next. The additional feature will be a one-act play entitled Kagura Uta Kumoi no Kyokumari," in which all star players will participate.

The evening show will consist of three plays, all of which will be performed by an excellent cast headed by Koshiro Matsumoto, Sojuro Sawamura, Nizayemon Kataoka and Mitsugoro Bando.

Kikugoro, who will be the principal actor in the afternoon show, will also play jointly in the night performance. "Yoshitsune Senbonzakura" (an old classical drama dealing with the colorful episodes and incidents in the life of Yoshitsune, great warrior of the Genji clan), will be the first play, which will be followed by a romantic musical-posture play known as "Michiyuki Hatsune no Tabi." Concluding the evening program is a fashionable Yedo meldrama "Megumi no Kenka" (Gallant Fight Between Firemen and Wrestlers).

Uzayemon Ichimura, veteran actor, who was scheduled to play next month at this theater, will not appear due to his illness.

The long-established annual customary performance of comedies will feature the January bill at the Shimbashi Embujo, where Goro Soganoya and his company of comedians will play in four dramas The main attraction will be "Yama no Kyodai" (Brothers at a Mountain), one of the 36 reserved plays by Goro.

After a lapse of one year, the Shinsei Shimpa theatrical troupe will take over the Tokyo Gekijo next month. The cast, headed by Shotaro Hanayagi, includes Kan Ishii, Ichijiro Oya, Eijiro Yanagi, Yeiichi Seto, Kakuko Mori and Masao Murata. A new play by Osuke Agi entitled "Hanayaka na Tomoshibi" (Bright Light) will be used as the curtain raiser. Next comes a two-act modern melodrama called "Rofufu" (The Aged Couple) by Matsutaro Kawaguchi. The program will be concluded by "Sakazuki" (Wine-Cup), one of the latest works by Minoru Nakano.

At the Meijiza, a combined troupe of the Inouye and Geijutsuza modern-school dramatic schools will play from January 1. The program includes three plays. First on the program will be "Iwasaki Dani" (A play dealing with the dramatic battle at Iwasaki Valley). The main attraction will be the third play called "San Francisco kara kayetta Onna" (The Woman Who Returned From San Francisco), by Kazuo Kikuda, in which Yaeko Mizutani will take the feminine lead.

"Oseiyei" (Wang Ching-wei) is the title of a new drama by Tadamoto Hiyeda, which will feature the January performance of the Shinkokugeki dramatic company to be presented at the Teikoku Gekijo, starting January 1. The additional feature is "Echigo Jishi" (a melodrama by Shin Hasegawa). As usual, Ryutaro Tatsumi and Shogo Shimada will have the important roles.

For 13 days from January 1, Kenichi Enomoto and his group of comedians will make a special performance at the Nippon Geikijo to stage a musical play called "Ongaku wa Tanoshi" (Music Is Enjoyable).

All star dancers of the Snow Class of the Takarazuka Girls' Opera Company will play jointly at the local Takarazuka Gekijo, commencing January 1 to present a new bill of three plays with matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. "Akarui Machi, Tsuyoi Machi" (Bright and Strong Town) is one of the feature offerings. A play dealing with a folklore of Annan will conclude the program.

U.S. and Mexico to Sign Pact

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 22.—A new commercial agreement has been made between the United States and Mexico and will shortly be signed by U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Mexican Ambassador to Washington, Francisco C. Najera, according to a Washington dispatch.

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INDIA JUTE GROWERS FACE BIG DIFFICULTY

Decline in Exports Threatens Economic Well-Being of Millions Engaged in Industry

Indian jute growers are reported to be in a difficult position due to the great decline in the export of jute made gunny bags. It is natural that the substantial decrease in the export of gunny bags, which have been in use all over the world, should be threatening the economic well-being of millions of Indian jute growers.

In this connection, the Kokusai Graph, in its latest issue, gives a detailed explanation of the important position which gunny-bags have occupied in India's economy up to the out-break of the War of Greater East Asia.

Jute, unlike raw cotton and hemp, is made of woody fiber. Therefore, it is inferior to any other fiber of the hempen group both in strength and elasticity. In spite of its weak points, however, jute is widely used as a packing material on account of its low price, as observable in the figures to follow:

Price in Gold Francs per Quintal

	1936	1937	1938
Jute	28	23	31
Raw cotton	79	86	59
Flax	177	100	110
Hemp	89	95	9
Manila hemp	42	51	3

Jute has another strong point, namely, the abundance of its supply, as shown in the following table:

(Unit—1.000 tons)

Jute	1.754	1.580	1.250
Raw cotton	6.890	8.270	6.2[illegible]3
Flax	767	814	80[illegible]
Hemp	380	410	410
Manila hemp	195	201	165

It is remarkable that India produced 99 per cent of all the jute produced in the world, as shown below:

(Unit—1.000 tons)

Country	1937	1938	1939
India	1.571	1.237	1.748
Nepal	10	8.4	4.5
Iran	3.8	3.8	3.8
Taiwan	10.4	15.2	25.6
French Indo-China	0.4	0.4	0.4
Total	1.595	1.265	1.782

The biggest producing center in India is Bengal Province, which produces nine-tenths of the country's total production of jute. The cultivation of jute in India was started on a commercial basis about 50 years ago. But, its production has not shown any rapid increase, because it is chiefly used for packing various crops, whose production is more or less fixed.

Production of Indian jute since 1892

(Unit—1.000 tons)

1892	539.2	1925	1.622.0
1895	1.007.1	1926	2.201.2
1900	1.184.0	1930	2.033.[illegible]
1905	1.477.0	1935	1.309.1
1910	1.670.2	1037	1.570.5
1915	1.332.5	1939	1.748.[illegible]
1920	1.075.2	1940	2.279.[illegible]
		1941	933.[illegible]

The yield for 1940 was much bigger than that of 1926, which had been the biggest ever since the cultivation of jute was started in India. In 1941, however, the yield fell to was 43 per cent that of 1941 chiefly because of the decrease of sales abroad resulting from the great difficulty in transportation.

The distribution of the market for Indian jute in Asia and Europe can be surmised from the following figures showing sales of the commodity in various parts of the world:

(Unit—1,000,000 Rupees)

	1937-38	1938-39
Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere	53 (or 12.0%)	54 (or 13.7%)
Germany, Italy and all regions under their influence	81 (or18.7%)	73 (or 18.8%)
Others	299 (or 69.1%)	264 (or 67.5%)
Total	433 (or 100%)	391 (or 100%)

The export of jute from India to Germany and Italy and to various regions of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere has naturally been interrupted since the outbreak of the European war and the war in the Pacific respectively. To make matters worse for the jute growers of India, even the United States is substituting gunny bags with those of cotton.

Thus, the future of the jute industry of India depends on the development of the present great war.

Palestine Has Bank Scandal

ANKARA.—In the course of its investigations into the business affairs of six Jewish banks in Palestine, the Palestine Government has discovered that a sum of 8,000,000 Palestine pounds has been embezzled, according to reports from Jerusalem. The inquiry is still proceeding, and further embezzlements are expected to be unearthed.

Sugar From Grapes

ISTANBUL.—The Turkish authorities have ordered an investigation to be made in State sugar refineries to ascertain whether sugar could be refined from grapes or currants. Such experiments are being undertaken in view of the shortage of sugar in the country.

From Brine to Salt . . I

Salt is produced by solar evaporation from sea water in France, Portugal, Spain, Italy, India, California, China and Japan, and from natural brine or salt lakes in India, Russia and the United States. The process generally adopted is similar in principle, although details of evaporating pans and of manufacturing plant vary with local conditions. A preliminary concentration is usually carried out by allowing the brine to flow through a series of channels to concentrating ponds. After removing the suspended impurities such as sand and clay and the less soluble salts, calcium carbonate or chalk and calcium sulphate, gypsum and anhydrite, the clear brine is run successively into crystallizing "farms." Picture shows salt from each crystallizing farm being raked into rows to be allowed to drain for some days, collected into heaps, drained again, lifted from the farm, washed and finally dried.

Vignettes of Bushido in Action

(Continued From Page 6)

bamboo pole and prepared for the direct appeal to the Shogun—the Jikiso.

Patiently he waited for the moment when the Shogun should sally forth from the castle on either an official trip or a pleasure jaunt. He knew the routine of the Jikiso well.

If the Shogun and his train should make their appearance, he would bow low, with his forehead touching the ground, not daring to gaze upon the mighty Shogun. He would extend the scroll pinned at the end of the bamboo pole, and silently pray that the Shogun would deign to stop and read the appeal.

In the meanwhile, the Shogun's retainers might berate him soundly for daring to hold up the procession. The scolding, which at times might take the form of a physical beating, was part of the established routine of the Jikiso. Then, if the Shogun should happen to be in good humor, he would order the scroll taken up, and brought to him, and the Jikiso would be realized. If the Shogun happened to be in bad humor, or if his retainers should be in an ugly mood, he might even be killed for his "insolence." This was the process of the Jikiso.

Sanae Waits Patiently

Shoya Sanae waited. He did not dare leave his station even to have something to eat, for fear that the Shogun might pass by during his absence. And as he waited, he reflected:

"My ancestor was a great samurai in the service of Lord Satomi of Awa," he mused. "I, too, have samurai blood in my veins. I know that fortune will smile, my Jikiso will be successful, my people will be saved, and after that, I care not what happens to me. I shall have fulfilled my duty."

On the third day the Shogun and his retinue rode out through the castle gates. Shoya Sanae hid his face, and made his Jikiso to the last high court of feudal Japan.

"Out of the way!" roared a high official. "How dare you obstruct the Shogun's train!" But Shoya Sanae grimly played his part, until he heard the Shogun say,

"The Jikiso—bring it to me!" And Shoya Sanae knew that his task was successfully concluded.

After the Shogun's train had disappeared down the road in the distance, Shoya Sanae got up, and quietly started the long journey home. He traveled lightly, for his heart sang, glad in the knowledge that he had accomplished his mission. He felt that he was carrying on in the best traditions of his ancestors.

At last, toward evening, he came within sight of the lovely hills behind which nestled his village of Kanoya. And soon he came within hearing of the babbling little stream which ran along side the path which he now walked. He could see Dondon-Bashi in the distance, the delicate arch of its railings reminding him of the curve of a beautiful sword.

Inaba Blocks Way

"Wait!" commanded a cold, harsh voice.

Shoya Sanae paused and looked up. Inaba Juzaemon blocked the road before him.

"Yes?" quietly asked Shoya Sanae. One look at his livid face, and he knew that somehow Juzaemon had already been informed of the mission from which he was now returning. Another glance took in the drawn sword, and Shoya Sanae knew that explanations were useless. Well, was he not prepared for the supreme moment of his life.

Coolly, serenely, courageously, his eyes in one happy glance took in the lovely hills above him, the singing brook below him, and beautiful Dondon-Bashi ahead of him. When his glance returned to the official, it was merely to see the last flashing glint of the setting sun caught on Juzaemon's descending blade.

. . .

Today, one can take a train from Ryogoku station in Tokyo, and within three hours be walking among the hills where Shoya Sanae was born. There one can stroll along the same path which that brave chief of Kanoya village trod on his return from Yedo, so many years ago.

And near Dondon-Bashi, beside the path where Shoya Sanae gave his life that his people might live, the grateful villagers have built a simple grave to his memory. On the back of the ten-foot high stone slab which marks his grave, there is carved in bold letters the essence of the above-related story, that the children of the village, born and unborn, might never forget.

Closing Quotations Of Key Stocks And Bonds

Yesterday's final prices of key stocks and bonds on the Tokyo Stock Exchange follow, in yen:

		Comp. with prev. day
Tokyo Exchange, new (short-term)	87.20	– 2.30
N.Y.K., new (short term)	76.00	+ 0.10
Kanebo Spinning, new (short-term)	73.40	– 1.10
Gov't Bond, Kogo 5%	108.15	Same

Exchange Rail Tickets Sold

In order to facilitate traveling between Nippon and French Indo-China, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha commenced from Tuesday to sell exchange tickets for the French Indo-China State Railway and for the French Indo-China-Yunnan Railway covering the Saigon-Hanoi run and the Haiphong-Hanoi run, respectively, for all classes, states Domei.

MART ON BULL SIDE WITH LEADERS HIGH

Clearance of October Wares Leaves Price Movement Firm; Spots Continue Up

The Tokyo Stock Exchange was comparatively bullish despite the cessation of transactions in October-bidden holdings, and signal gains were scored by some leading issues.

In the long-term section, for example, Tokai Steamship rose ¥2.00 at one bound, and Mitsubishi Electric Machinery advanced ¥1.90, Iwaki Coal ¥1.40, Tokyo Rayon ¥1.20, Kurashiki Rayon, new, and Kobe Steel ¥1.00 each, while Fuji Spinning, new, and Tokyo Bearing lost ¥1.10 and ¥1.30 respectively.

The short-term section was continuously sluggish, and prices eased as a whole, in reaction to the high engagements.

The spot market was featured by the continuous gains of miscellaneous industrials, for Central China Tobacco registered a sharp gain of ¥2.50, and Sakurada Machinery and Japan Metallurgical Industrial stepped up ¥1.00 each.

Long-Term Section

Yesterday's final prices of select issues in the long-term section were:

First Section

	—Delivery— Dec.	Jan.	Feb
Kanebo Spinning (50)		128.5	129.0
Sino-Japan Spin (50)		78.5	80.0
Teikoku Rayon (50)		....	76.5
Kurashiki Rayon (50)		67.2	....
Toa Hemp Ind (50)		73.9	73.7
Tokyo Hemp Yarn (50)		94.1	94.1
Showa Elec Ind (50)		79.2	79.6
Japan Nitrogen (50)		74.0	74.6
Second Section			
N. Y. K. (50)		90.7	90.1
O. S. K. (50)		84.8	85.8
Toyo Steamship (50)		....	67.9
Nissan Steamship (50)		61.0	61.4
Mitsubishi Mining (50)		89.1	90.0
Ishihara Ind (50)		66.9	67.9
Third Section			
Furukawa Elec Ind (50)		100.9	102.0
M'bishi Elec Mach (50)		128.0	126.1
Japan Oils and Fats (50)		66.2	66.5
Japan Beer (50)		96.6	....
Tropical Ind (42½)		40.0	41.5
Sumatra Dev. new (37½)		45.9	45.0
Asahi Glass (50)		100.0	99.1
Toa Tobacco (50)		101.9	101.0
Manchou Tobacco (50)		88.4	87.8

Short-Term Section

Tokyo Exch. new	88.6	9.3	6.1	87.2
N. Y. K.. new	75.6	6.0	5.1	76.0
M'bishi Heavy Ind.	94.3	4.5	3.3	94.0
Kanebo Spin. new	73.6	3.6	2.5	73.4
Teikoku Rayon. new	67.0	7.0	6.2	66.5
Hitachi Iron Works	88.1	8.2	7.5	87.9
Osaka Exch. new	44.5	4.8	3.7	44.4
Japan Steel Tube	68.4	8.3	7.7	67.8
Japan Oil	75.1	5.1	4.7	74.8
S. M. R.	73.0	3.0	2.8	72.9
N. Y. K. old	89.7	90.9	89.6	90.2
Hokkaido Coal	74.5	4.5	4.0	74.2
Kanebo Spin, old	127.0	7.9	6.6	126.6
Toyo Rayon, new	54.7	4.7	4.1	54.2
Kokura Iron Works	53.1	3.9	3.0	53.9
Japan Beer. new	45.0	5.0	4.8	44.9
Japan Sugar. new	65.5	5.6	5.1	65.6
Ensuiko Sugar	61.1	1.5	1.0	61.4
Japan Mining	61.6	1.7	1.5	61.6
Manchou Ind	58.5	8.5	8.2	....

GIANT BLAST FURNACE COMPLETED IN CHOSEN

Is Second of Seishin Iron Works To Be Blown In—Was Constructed in Record Time

The second giant blast furnace of the Seishin Iron Works of the Nippon Seitetsu Kabushiki Kaisha (Japan Iron Manufacturing Company) was formally blown in at a ceremony held Monday morning, to bolster further Japan's wartime iron production program, reports Domei from Seishin, Chosen.

Five hundred high officials of the Chosen Government-General and Manchoukuo Government as well as leading industrialists of Japan and Chosen attended the ceremony.

A new record was established in the history of blast-furnace construction when the second blast furnace was completed within only six months since the construction work started in May this year.

Kansai Notes

There will be a special Christmas Eve service at the Kobe Union Church at Ikuta-cho today, at 4 p.m.

The choir of the German Evangelical Congregation will sing German Christmas carols.

The Indian community in Kobe congregated at the Bharat Hindu Mandir to offer a special prayer for the successful termination of the Greater East Asia War and also for the complete eradication of British domination in the current Indian independence movement.

New arrivals at the Oriental Hotel on December 22 included: Miss T. Kakiuchi, Mr. and Mrs. Yamaguchi, Mrs. Y. Ota, Mr. Y. Muto, [illegible], Mr. K. Kurose, Mr. I. Yamaguchi, Mr. F. Tanaka, Mr. T. Mikumo.

BANKING IN SHANGHAI

Financial Institutions in Port City Now Enjoying Unprecedented Prosperity; New Banks Being Set Up to Meet Rising Demand

Shanghai forms the financial center of China. Although at present the area is making vigorous strides forward as a link in the East Asia Co Prosperity chain with its Anglo American coloring gradually wiped off, it still retains some vestiges of their former character, both economic and financial, extending over a whole century, which tends to make its financial mechanism more or less complicated. A special dispatch from the Shanghai branch of the Nippon Sangyo Keizai gives an account as to how the United States and Britain used to take command of the financial world of Shanghai and what effect the development of the China Affair into the War of Greater East Asia has had on banking in Shanghai.

The first bank established in Shanghai was the East Bank opened in 1848 under British management, which, however, was closed soon after its establishment. In 1852 the Chartered Bank of India Australia and China was established, which was followed by the establishment of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in 1867. Subsequently the Mercantile Bank of China, Banque de l'Indo Chine, American International Banking Corporation and a few other banks were brought into being. All these banks were either American or British, and on the strength of their gigantic capital and sound management, gained credit with the public and gradually spread their powerful influence all over China. On the other hand, many ch'ien chang or money changing firms, which were the only financial institutions in China in those days, were subjected to severe blows on that score, but were unable to take any adequate measures to compete effectively with the rising influence of these foreign banks run on a modern scale. They were consequently forced into ruin one after another principally because of their meager capital and their primitive methods of business management.

Trade Bank Set Up

It was in 1896, that is, 43 years after the opening in Shanghai of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, that the Commercial Bank of China was established as the first up-to-date banking institution under Chinese management. The object of establishing this bank was to adjust the currency system in China and the recovery of banking rights which had been encroached on by Anglo-American influence, but the pressure brought to bear on it by the foreign banks was so heavy that it could not attain its original aims. In 1907 the Bank of Communications and the National Commercial Bank of Chekiang were established, which was followed by the establishment of the Ningpo Commercial Bank in 1908. All these banks were invested with the right of issue. The Bank of Communications organized on a semi-governmental system, in addition to financing public utilities such as roads, electric power, postal service and land and water transportation facilities, wore a commercial character.

Banking Advances

Due to the smallness of capital, instability of organization and the narrowness of the sphere of business, the position which these Chinese banks occupied in the money market in those days was naturally very poor, but due to a political change as a result of the Revolution, during the 1st year of Minkuo (1911) to the 5th year of the same era the majority of the money-exchange firms were closed in succession, while the rise of banking was remarkable. Most of the banks which occupy important positions in the financial world of China today, such as the Bank of China, Continental Bank, Industrial Bank of China, Young Brothers' Banking Corporation, Bank of Canton, Kiangsu Bank, Toa Bank, Tong Hwa Bank, etc., were established about that time.

Thus, prior to the 10th year of Minkuo (1921) the rise of banking was particularly noteworthy, but on account of their huge capital and excellent management the British and American banks still continued to reign supreme over the financial world of China, which afforded only a narrow sphere of activities to the Chinese commercial banks. However, in 1921, when the private circumstances of the foreign commercial banks were brought to light over the question of the closing of the Banque Industrielle de Chine, the Chinese people began to prepare for counter-attack against the foreign banks on the money-market, which, coupled with the increased movement of funds with the expansion of national industry, created a golden age for the newly-established Chinese banks.

Central Bank Established

With the transfer of the citadel of the National Government to Nanking in 1927, the banking of Shanghai underwent a process of further development, and the following year saw the establishment of the Central Bank of China. At the same time, the Finance Ministry of the National Government authorized the Bank of China to carry on its transactions as an exchange bank, also giving the Bank of Communications control of all the commercial banks throughout the country. Thus the financial power of these banks were considerably increased and the money market in Shanghai was further stabilized.

In 1932 when the United States and Britain abandoned their gold standard system, the banking world of Shanghai was seized by an unprecedented panic, resulting in the bankruptcy of a number of small banks. The financial panic in Shanghai soon spread throughout the country, dealing serious blows to national economy at large. The crisis, however, did not last long, but was brought to an end when China abolished its silver standard system.

While the Chinese banks, after such bitter experience, were continuing their business with utmost prudence with a view to stabilizing the national economy, the China Affair broke out.

The currency inflation as a result of the affair together with sharp falls in the fapi brought on speculation and continuous skyrocketing of prices, throwing whole economy of Shanghai into utter confusion and disorder. The New National Government, after its return to the capital, established in January of last year, with a view to readjusting the financial disorder, the Central Reserve Bank invested with powers to issue new currency, to transact business on behalf of the National Treasury and so forth. The foundation of this bank has recently been very much more consolidated and it is exerting itself in an active way as the leader of financial control or for readjustment or establishment of a sound financial structure as the central agency for Shanghai banking.

War Opens Up New Vistas

With the expulsion of the Anglo-American influence from East Asia and the liquidation of all banks of a hostile character in the territory in consequence of the War of Greater East Asia, the Chinese commercial banks have been given better chances for further development. As the situation now stands, not only are the existing banks enjoying unprecedented prosperity but new banks are being created in rapid succession to meet the ever-growing demand for up-to-date financial institutions in Shanghai and vicinity.

FISHERMEN SAVING INCREASING SUMS

Healthy Habit Growing—Movement to Save 10 Per Cent of Annual Incomes Spreading

A healthy savings habit has been growing among the fishermen throughout Japan in recent years, a trend entirely unknown among them prior to the outbreak of the present war in the world.

According to the Nippon Sangyo, the fishing villages of Japan had had no economic organization of their own up to 1933, when, thanks to the revision of the Fishery Law, fishery cooperative guilds were established in leading fishery districts in Japan Proper. The number of these guilds has since grown steadily larger.

At present, there are 3,022 fishery cooperative guilds in the country, including 431 that handle savings by members. The total amount of savings by the members of one of the fishery cooperative guilds in Hokkaido exceeds ¥6,000,000, the total amount of savings by fishermen belonging to the fishery cooperative guilds throughout Japan Proper being in excess of ¥12,520,000.

Amount Quickly Increasing

This is by no means a large amount. But, the amount is quickly increasing ever since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. All members of the fishery cooperative guilds in Japan Proper are popularizing a movement to save 10 per cent of their incomes each year. Their savings in this connection will reach a few score million yen each year.

The fishermen in Japan Proper have 369 saving guilds besides the fishery cooperative guilds, and in these they have deposited about ¥3,300,000 up to the present as shown in the following table:

Place	Number of guilds	Members	Amount of deposits
Hokkaido	20	4.162	341.789
Iwate	13	3.139	253.098
Miyagi	10	1.553	48.348
Yamagata	5	461	22.254
Kanagawa	41	6.085	567.015
Ishikawa	14	894	241.008
Shizuoka	21	3.609	77.536
Aichi	18	2.199	57.320
Miye	38	7.346	654.884
Shiga	28	3.539	36.849
Kyoto	23	2.824	78.307
Osaka	4	214	9.798
Okayama	19	3.006	245.617
Wakayama	21	2.339	47.972
Kochi	27	3.632	136.191
Fukuoka	21	1.812	167.211
Miyazaki	24	3.379	169.214
Kagoshima	20	4.425	151.597
Total	269	54.563	3.300.407

Bill Clearings

December 23
(In ¥1.000)

	Tokyo	Osaka
Bills Cleared	289.957	134.939
Balance	48.208	25.405

Investments

SHARES sold or bought on cash payment. Margin transactions on long or short term delivery.

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TOKYO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1942

Canada Alone?

It has recently become known that the Ta Kung Pao, an influential Chungking journal, has expressed serious dissatisfaction over the treatment accorded by the Canadian Government to the Chinese residing in Canada. Such an attitude on the part of the Chungking leaders is indeed most easy to understand in view of the flagrantly discriminatory treatment which Canada, in common with practically all the Anglo-American sections of the world, has been traditionally meting out to Chinese as well as to all other Asiatics.

According to the Chungking journal, which is virtually the official organ of the Chungking regime and accurately reflects the opinions of the leaders of that regime, Canada should improve its treatment of the resident Chinese as well as amend the immigration laws which are highly discriminatory toward the Chinese. In view of the fact that the Anglo-American leaders are constantly preaching that their aim in the present war is to promote justice and equality among all the peoples of the world, says the Ta Kung Pao in effect, the Canadian Government should apply the principle of equality to correct the unjust status of the Chinese residing in Canada. Only through a rational solution of this issue can friendly relations between China and Canada be truly advanced.

Such an expression of dissatisfaction on the part of the Chungking authorities is, of course, well taken. But it is to be wondered why the protest should have been confined to Canada. As bad as Canada's example is, it is only one example among the general practice which is universal in all the countries of the world where British and American influences hold sway. In all the colonies and dominions of the British Empire, and most conspicuous of all, in the United States which makes the greatest pretense of professing justice and equality, the Chinese along with all other Asiatics are treated as pariahs unworthy of enjoying the simple rights and courtesies accorded to other people as a matter of fact.

The Chungking authorities must certainly know that Chinese are rigidly prohibited from immigrating to the United States, and that this ban on Chinese immigration was established in the latter portion of the last century after a campaign of venomous villification of the character of the Chinese people. The Chungking authorities must know that the few Chinese who are temporarily permitted to enter the United States, such as international merchants, professional men, and tourists, are forced to undergo the most humiliating and discourteous examination and detention at the various immigration stations at American ports, and that they are constantly treated like a class apart from the rest of humanity.

The Chungking authorities must also know that in most of the cities of America, unfriendly social pressure forces the few Chinese who have managed to establish their residence there to live in segregated Chinatowns located in the most disreputable districts. The Chungking authorities must know that throughout the greater part of the western states of America, Chinese are rigidly prohibited through quasi-legal "racial restrictions" from residing anywhere except in the most undesirable neighborhoods. The Chungking authorities must know that Chinese are rigidly excluded from attaining American citizenship by naturalization, a right which is accorded to the lowliest immigrant from Europe. The Chungking authorities must know that social custom in America forces the Chinese to remain in the most menial of occupations, despised and mistreated and at best patronizingly tolerated with a contemptuous humor.

Why then is Chungking's dissatisfaction directed only against Canada? True enough, all these discriminations exist in Canada also. But they exist on a more gigantic scale in the land immediately to the south. Do the Chungking authorities mean to extend their protest eventually to the United States as well?

At any rate, however, the recent outburst of the influential Chungking journal against racial discrimination in Canada serves as a significant omen. It is an omen that Chungking is beginning to harbor some doubt as to the sincerity of the United States and Britain. Well might such doubts arise, for the attitude of these two Powers has been transparent beyond belief. It is a wonder that Chungking did not perceive the true situation earlier.

It is meaningful indeed that for decades the United States and the British Empire have been traditionally discriminating against the Chinese and all other Asiatics in all their domains. And it is meaningful indeed that it is only after they have become hard-pressed in the present war, after they had become desperate for dupes and allies to serve their ends, that they began talking of justice and equality and freedom and democracy. But once they began talking of these things, they talked with a vengeance. They must have persuaded, at least temporarily, people like the leaders of Chungking into believing that the Anglo-Americans stood for the equality of all peoples and all races, so eloquent indeed were their pious claims.

But it is most meaningful indeed that while broadcasting these pretensions, these Anglo-Americans have done nothing to put these ideals into practice in their own countries. While talking of saving the world in the future, these Anglo-Americans are doing nothing to remedy the flagrant abuses which exist at home. The fine ideals of the Atlantic Charter are thus obviously a bait to lure and fool other peoples into fighting for them but the principles cannot be meant seriously by the authors, for otherwise why is it that no attempt is being made to apply them in regions where they can be applied without procrastination!

Far from waging this war to liberate the oppressed peoples of the world, the Anglo-American leaders are fighting to restore the obsolete system of imperialism by which they hope to prolong their iniquitous exploitation of the best portions of the earth. The speech of Anthony Eden before the House of Commons on December 2 and the recent revelations of Paul Van Zeeland of the plans of the Anglo-American capitalists for the economic subjugation of China, as pointed out in the Japan Times Advertiser editorial of December 20, show what the secret aims of the United States and Britain really are. It is about time that the leaders at Chungking should become a little uneasy about the goodwill and sincerity of their Anglo-American "allies" who promise them high-sounding phrases for the future but give them nothing but danger and discrimination for the present as in the past.

A Year Ago Today

Dec. 24, 1941

From the Files of Japan Times Advertiser

The Japanese Army Forces, which landed on Mindanao, early on the morning of December 20, in keeping close cooperation with the Imperial Navy, shattered strong enemy resistance and completely occupied Davao, capital of Mindanao, at 5 p.m. the same day. Losses caused to the enemy up to December 21 consisted of 600 taken captive and 200 dead left on the battlefield, it was announced by the Imperial Headquarters yesterday.

* * *

The island of Wake fell completely into the hands of the Japanese Navy yesterday, it was announced at 11 a.m. today by the Imperial Headquarters. A Navy Landing Force, in face of fierce enemy resistance, effected a landing and completely occupied the U.S. possession at 10 a.m. December 23.

* * *

Four British fighting planes of the Buffalo type were shot down by the Japanese Air Force which raided the airfields of Ipoh, Telok, Anson and Kuala Lumpur on December 21. All Japanese planes returned safely to their base.

* * *

Up to December 22, the number of prisoners taken by the Japanese during the present offensive on Hongkong Island reached 1,119. Mt. Cameron, enemy stronghold in Hongkong, finally fell into Japanese hands as a result of the severe attacks which started at 11 p.m. December 22. Mt. Cameron occupies a strategic point overlooking the Bay of Hongkong.

* * *

With the arrival of Prime Minister Winston Churchill in Washington, accompanied by General Sir John Dill, former Chief of the General Staff and Lord Beaverbrook, Minister of Supply, a momentous meeting is scheduled to take place at Capitol Hill between the British Prime Minister and President Roosevelt to map out a new strategy in view of the devastating defeats in the Pacific, reports Domei.

* * *

United States troops in armored cars have been placed in front of factories and shipyards where the Welders Union have gone on strike, according to a report from Buenos Aires.

* * *

Admitting glaring defects in their previous war plans, Colonel Henry L. Stimson and Colonel Frank Knox, United States Secretaries of War and Navy respectively, announced that new methods were being devised to cope with repeated reverses in the Pacific, it is reported from Stockholm.

* * *

The Canadian National Defense Ministry in Ottawa has announced that Canadian casualties in the battle of Hongkong have been very heavy. Among those killed was Brigadier-General K. Lawson, Commander of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, according to a Domei dispatch from Stockholm.

TRADE BETWEEN COUNTRIES IN SOUTH AMERICA EXAMINED

Chile and Argentina Trying to Eliminate Dependence On United States for Their Goods

(From the Boeki Tosei-Kai Kaiho)

Despite America's threats and inducements, the two great South American nations, Argentina and Chile, are maintaining their neutrality. They are, at the same time, endeavoring to eliminate the dependence of their foreign trade on the United States and establish a sphere of co-existence within the South American continent itself. Argentine has recently been conducting reciprocal trade with Chile. She has also just signed a barter agreement under which she exchanges wheat for Peruvian petroleum.

The trade of each South American country naturally varies according to the conditions in and surrounding it. Of these, the most important are geographical position and the state of transportation facilities. When a country cannot communicate with the outside by sea or at best can only do so with great difficulty, its trade by land with neighboring nations usually becomes highly developed. For instance, roughly one-third of land-locked Paraguay's trade is taken up by her neighbors; and 15 per cent of land-locked Bolivia's trade is also with countries adjacent to her.

On the other hand, there are countries like Colombia and Venezuela, who are without not only adequate sea transport facilities but also land routes to their neighbors. As a result, the South American trade of these two nations constitutes only one per cent of their trade.

Highly Developed

Commercial relations between Argentina and Brazil, who have been blessed geographically from the standpoint of communications, are highly developed. These two countries are providing other South American nations with manufactured articles; and their trade with the latter amounted to about 10 per cent

A glimpse at statistics of intra-South American commercial activity will reveal the trade tendencies of the various countries that are attributable to geographical environment. The trade between Argentina and Brazil is the largest of that between any two South American countries, with Argentina exporting cereals, especially wheat, in exchange for Brazilian tropical products, such as coffee, mate, and lumber. Ranking second is the trade between the two land-locked countries of Bolivia and Paraguay and their neighbors. Imports outweigh exports by far in the case of both nations, which receive large amounts of foodstuffs and manufactured products from the outside. Third in importance is the trade between the rich agricultural region of La Plata with the two mining countries of Chile and Peru.

The total volume of intra-South American trade has averaged roughly $200,000,000 annually during the past few years. This is small, however, when compared with the all-time high of $411,000,000 reached in 1918, the last year of the first World War. By 1929, which marked the beginning of a world-wide economic depression, it had come down to $362,000,000 From than the drop was even more severe; and in 1932, it hit an all-time low of $105,000,000. This was followed by an upward tendency which is still being largely maintained.

Trade Limited

An interesting characteristic of intra-South American commercial activity is that, on the whole, exports exceed imports. But, perhaps, the most distinctive feature is that the trade of each nation is for the most part, limited to about one or two countries. For instance, of the entire volume of Argentine trade with other South American nations, 55 per cent is with Brazil and 20 per cent with Peru. Roughly 80 per cent of Brazil's South American trade is with Argentina; and if Chile's trade with Argentina and with Peru are combined, they amount to 78 per cent of Chile's trade with South American countries. Peru's trade with Argentina and Chile and that of Uruguay with Argentina and Brazil present similar ratios.

The progress of intra South American trade has been hampered by the undeveloped state of land and sea transport facilities as well as the lack of reciprocal trade agreements. A further development of trade among the South American countries can be expected as these conditions are remedied.

Argentina, one of the South American ABC powers, is the leading trade nation of the continent. During the past few years, Argentina's South American trade has amounted to about 40 per cent of the total volume of intra-South American trade and averaged roughly $90,000,000 annually. This is a great advance over that of the pre-World War I days of $50,000,000.

Argentina's commercial relations with South American countries made great advances during the first World War, reaching the record total of $140,000,000 in 1918. The ensuing period of unfavorable economic conditions caused a sudden drop; but by 1929 it had again risen to $130,000,000, only $10,000,000 short of the record set in 1918. But once again an economic depression, much more severe than the former, set in, bringing it down to $30,000,000 in 1932. Then another rise took place; and by 1937 it had reached $120,000,000, the highest in over a score of years.

Commerce Doubles

Argentina's South American trade, which formed 5.6 per cent of her entire trade in 1918, has now doubled that amount, and Brazil takes up 57 per cent of it, Peru 14 per cent, and Chile eight per cent. Ninety per cent of Argentine exports to Brazil is made up of wheat and flour, the remaining 10 per cent being composed of fruit, vegetables, linen and manufactured articles. In return, she buys, from her northern neighbor, coffee, mate, bananas, citrus fruit, tobacco, lumber and other tropical products. She has also become one of the best customers of Sao Paolo textiles, importing about $1,000,000 worth in 1939.

Argentina concluded a commercial treaty with Brazil nearly a century ago in 1856. The agreement was renewed in January, 1940; but later in October of the same year, a new treaty, designed to increase the trade between the two countries, was drawn up at Rio de Janeiro.

The volume of Argentine exports to Peru, which is made up chiefly of wheat, is not very large; but her imports from that country, which is an important provider of petroleum to Argentina, constitute about one-third of her imports from South American countries. A provisional treaty between the two countries, calling for the reduction of tariff barriers on Argentine wheat and Peruvian oil, was signed in 1937. This agreement has contributed greatly to the advance of trade between the two countries, which had no commercial relations with each other at all before the first World War.

To Chile, Argentina exports live stock, wool, leather, Kebracho oil and wheat. In exchange for these, she receives such products as vegetables, lumber and steel. A commercial treaty between the two countries was concluded in 1933; and in February of the following year, a supplementary agreement providing for the reduction of tariff barriers on certain specified goods on the part of both nations was signed at Rio de Janeiro.

Chief Exporter to Paraguay

Argentina is the chief exporter to Paraguay, supplying her with wheat, livestock, textiles, and machinery. In return, Paraguay sends citrus fruit, mate, lumber, and tobacco to Argentina.

Argentina also provides Uruguay with kebracho oil, lumber, food and drink products, textiles, machinery and tools. In 1939, moreover, she exported $1,800,000 worth of sugar to that country. Gravel, which Argentina uses as building material, makes up 70 per cent of her imports from Uruguay.

At present, Brazil, another member of the ABC group, ranks second in intra-South American trade. Although her trade with countries in South America, prior to the first World War, had amounted to 33 per cent of her trade, today it has dropped to 26 per cent. Brazil's South American commercial activity made great advances during the First World War. From $55,600,000 in 1913, it leapt to $112,880,000 in 1918. This amounted to 20.4 per cent of her trade. But owing to adverse economic conditions, a decline which continued until 1937 took place. Today, it is once again up to the level of the pre-World War days. At present Brazil's South American trade forms about 10 per cent of her trade; and her exports consist mainly of coffee, mate, lumber, tobacco, rice, cocoa, citrus fruit and bananas. In recent years, her export of textiles has increased greatly.

Shipments of Coffee

Brazil's shipments of coffee to Argentina form about 20 per cent of her total exports, while those of lumber, rice, and tobacco make up 15 per cent, seven per cent, and five per cent respectively. Brazil's second best customer in South America is Uruguay, to whom she sends mate, meat, leather, and coffee, the former comprising 60 per cent and the latter 30 per cent of her exports to that country.

Brazil receives from Argentina about 80 per cent of her imports from South American countries; and they include wheat, flour, linen, fruit, and manufactured articles. From Peru, she secures gravel, from Uruguay flour, and from Chile niter, steel fruit and vegetables.

In 1933, Brazil concluded a commercial treaty with Uruguay, and three years later she also signed provisional trade agreements with Peru and Chile. She had also signed a commercial treaty with Colombia in 1932, but this became invalid in 1936. There is still, however, a most-favored nation agreement between both countries.

The intra-South American trade activity of Chile, the third of the ABC nations, has had its vicissitudes. In 1918, it hit a record high of $46,740,000, but by 1932, it had come down to merely $7,770,000. During that time, Chile's trade underwent many severe fluctuations. These fluctuations have continued, but during the past three years, it has averaged about $18,000,000 annually.

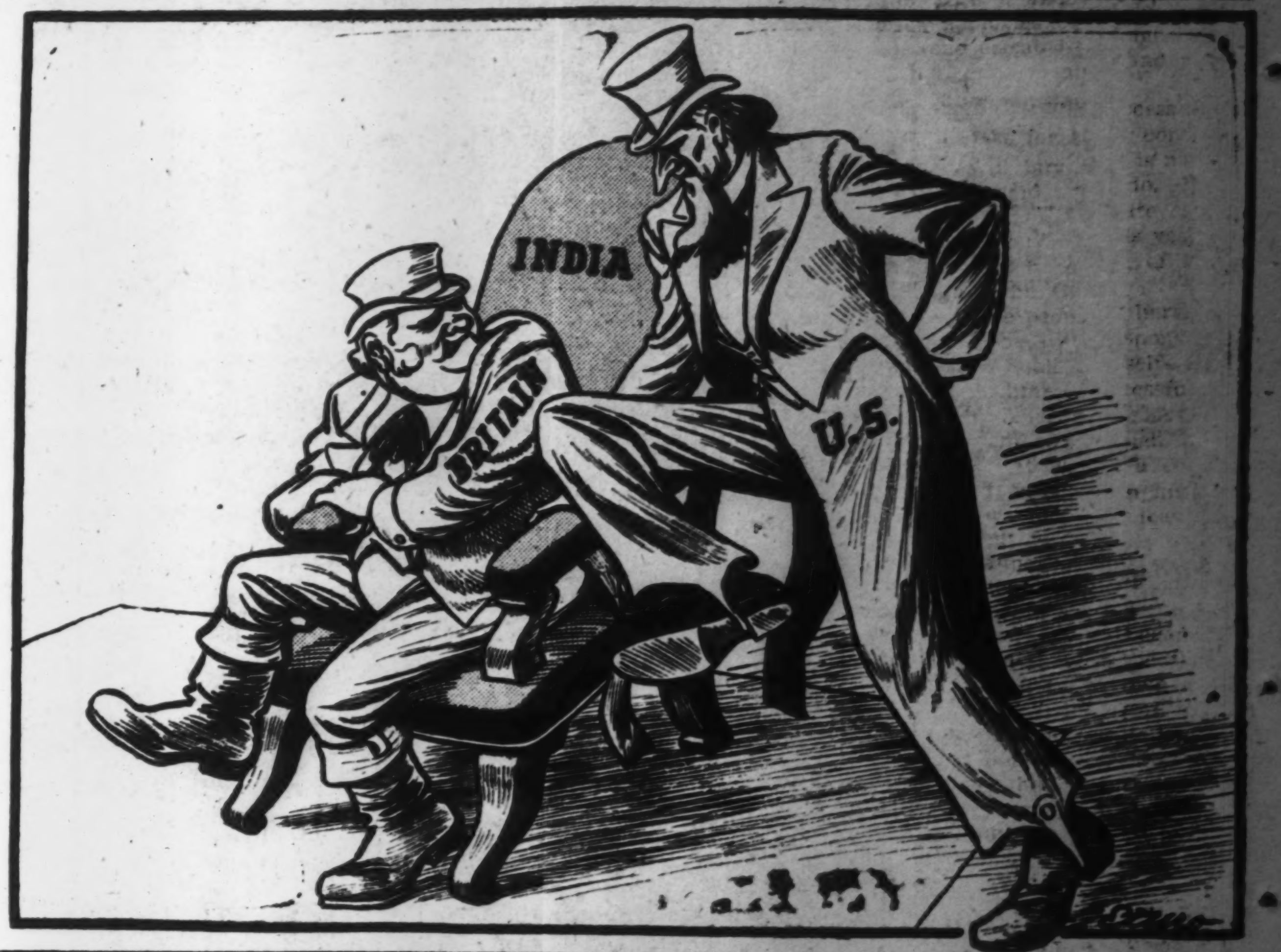
At present, Chile ranks fourth, next to Peru, in intra-South American trade. Before the First World War, her trade with other South American countries amounted to 5.3 per cent of her total trade, but by 1929 it has risen to 7.8 per cent. A peculiarity of Chile's South American trade is that imports exceed exports by far. In recent years, Chile's South American trade has amounted to nearly $5,000,000 annually; and roughly half of it is with Argentina, to whom her chief exports are fruit, vegetables, lumber copper, and charcoal. The volume of her exports to Peru, Bolivia and Brazil are also fairly large.

Chile secures most of her imports from Peru, who supplies her with goods, consisting chiefly of petroleum, cotton and sugar. These form approximately 50 per cent of Chile's imports from South American countries.

In recent years, Chilean imports from Argentina has been increasing notably, and besides live stock, wheat, and other food products, they include machinery tools, and chemicals. The volume of Chile's imports from Brazil is relatively small. They amounted to roughly $1,000,000 in 1939, and consisted chiefly of mate, coffee, rice, citrus fruit, textiles and manufactured articles.

Chile has commercial treaties with several South American countries. The nature of her agreements with Argentina and Brazil have already been described. In March of 1934, she concluded a commercial treaty with Peru. Under the terms of the agreement which was amended in February of the following year, reciprocity in the trade of Peruvian sugar and cotton for Chilean wheat, niter, livestock, and fruit was agreed upon. Although this agreement proper has become invalid, it is still in effect as a provisional treaty pending the conclusion of a new agreement. In 1936 Chile also signed with Ecuador a trade treaty providing for the reduction and in some cases the removal of tariff barriers between the two nations.

Uncle Sam: 'Get Out of Here'



READERS IN COUNCIL

Praises War Anniversary Number

To the Editor:

The Greater East Asia War Anniversary Issue of the Japan Times Advertiser is not only extremely befitting to the importance of the occasion and of the nation, but also will, in the future, prove to be a greatly useful reference. Sent abroad, it will eloquently represent the undisturbed Japan at war and its latent greatness.

I wish to present my compliment to you and, through you, to those members of your staff responsible for the publication of the special.

KIYOSUE INUI

Dec. 8, 1942.

In the Periodicals

Kokusai Keizai Shuho, Vol. 23, No. 51 dated December 19, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Domei Tsushin-sha, Tokyo. Price 30 sen. Leading articles: Chungking Under the War of Greater East Asia, Problems of Second Year of Decisive War, Study of Wage Problem, New Phase of Thought War, Population Policy of India, Method of India's Industrialization, Adjustment of Financial Organ, Economic activities in Germany's Occupied Areas, U.S. Wartime Finances Analyzed, and Story of Ordnance Industry.

VIGNETTES of BUSHIDO IN ACTION

Shoya Sanae

By SHINICHI OSHIDARI

Crafty Inaba Juzaemon half shut his beady eyes, put his elbows down softly on the desk, and with his chin resting comfortably on the fat, tender fingers of his clasped hands began to scheme for the morrow. "If all goes well," he thought, "I shall be able to pick up some spending money when I make the rounds of inspection for the Shogunate Government." A lean smile betrayed his greedy anticipation.

Juzaemon was "Yakunin," a government official of the Tokugawa era. His particular job was to travel at periodic intervals through the countryside, investigating local conditions in order to make out his reports to the Government at Yedo (present Tokyo).

This year he was especially busy. Besides his regular work as inspector, he had been commissioned with the task of food adjuster. As the crops were not too abundant this fall, some parts of the country were dependent in part on government support.

Juzaemon got up early the next morning, put on his crested garments which distinguished him as a high government official, and started out on his official tour towards Kanoya.

Kanoya was the largest of the four closely grouped villages nestled in the lovely hills of Chiba province. These hills, had they been just a bit higher, would have overlooked the beautiful bay of Tokyo.

Around the foot of these hills there wound a cool stream, bordered by overhanging shrubs. Where this small river had gouged itself deep into the narrow valleys formed by the hills, miniature falls were seen, and the waters made a rushing sound as they sped over and around oddly shaped rocks which playfully sought to impede the river's progress.

The other three villages were Kobara, Shirasaka, and Fukana, each of which was the center of a quiet farming district. Each had its "shoya," a village chief whose position was comparable to the modern village mayor. The head of Kanoya was Shoya Sanae.

On His Way to Kanoya

Juzaemon made his way along the narrow path along the stream leading to Kanoya. As he approached his destination, he became engrossed in scheming, and was totally oblivious to the beauty around him. He sat down to rest on a little bride—Dondon-Bashi, which was a charming bridge if he had been in the right frame of mind to observe it carefully.

"Hm," he mused. "The village folk are simple. If I pretend to be stern, I shall come away with a little extra pin money which will come in handy when I return, and Yedo will be none the wiser."

At Kanoya Juzaemon was met by the shoyas of all four villages. Shoya Sanae, being the senior in years and the head of the largest of the four villages, spoke for the delegation.

"We are greatly honored to have you visit us today," welcomed Shoya Sanae. "We have been awaiting your arrival with much concern, for as you must already know, we are particularly anxious to be favored with your kind sympathy. The crops have not been very good this year, and for the sake of the people, we are hopeful of obtaining some aid from the Shogunate."

"Ah, so I have heard. I am prepared to do all in my power to be of whatever service I can. . . that is. . ." cleverly answered Juzaemon, with a significant smile.

"To make a tedious story short," continued Shoya Sanae, "We ask aid in the form of rice. It is our desire that you kindly report our need for assistance to the Shogunate."

"Ah, yes," replied Juzaemon. "But first, will you show me your fields, so that I may make an estimate of the aid which you will require?"

The delegation of village chiefs led the official on a tour of inspection. The group came to a warehouse, and Juzaemon looked in. Just then a vat of pickles was accidentally overturned, and the contents splashed over the government official, who suddenly pretended to be greatly angered.

"Fools!" he burst out. He stormed and raved, and not until many profuse apologies were tendered did he become placated. Then his manner changed, and his voice became suave again.

Asks for Money

"Money will buy a new suit of clothes," he said. Then he added with a meaningful smile. "And unless someone buys me some new clothes in which to appear before the Shogun, the Government may not hear of the people's plight, and that would be very unfortunate, wouldn't it! Shall we return?"

Juzaemon's hint was not lost on the shoyas. After the official had left their company, the troubled group looked at each other. The shoya of Fukana spoke:

"It is clear," he said, "that unless we submit to Juzaemon's request, we cannot expect aid from the Government." The leaders of Kobara and Shirasaka worriedly nodded in agreement.

"Listen," said Shoya Sanae. "There is the 'Jikiso,' the direct appeal to the Shogun at Yedo. Far rather would I pin my hopes on a Jikiso, than pay tribute to Juzaemon!"

"True. We had forgotten that," assented the others. The shoya of Shirasaka suggested: "We, as respective heads of our villages, could make the trip to Yedo, and appeal directly to the Shogun."

"I am confident of success if we resort to the Jikiso," continued Shoya Sanae. "But there is no need for all of us to go to Yedo. In the first place, the unfortunate circumstances of our villages this year will not permit the financing of a trip for all of us.

"I being the oldest here, feel that it is my duty and responsibility to make the Jikiso myself—alone. The appeal will be successful, for I shall stake my life on it. A leader of the people, even though he be but a humble shoya of a country village, must not falter in his duty to the people. I shall leave for Yedo this very night!"

Prepares For Trip

Shoya Sanae returned to his home, and immediately began preparations for the trip to the Shogun at Yedo. First he sat down at his desk, and wrote an appeal to the Shogun on an immaculately white paper scroll. After this was done, he changed his clothes, carefully tucked the scroll within the folds of his garment, put on his traveling sandals and determinedly set out on his mission.

But before he started, he picked up a sharp knife and went into his garden. There he cut a fine bamboo pole. He split its tip with the knife and rounded the other end.

Using the bamboo pole as a staff, he walked along the long road to Yedo—a distance of more than one hundred miles. He rested very little, for his mission was uppermost in his mind.

At last he arrived at the Shogunate's capital. He went directly to the castle of the Shogun, and sat down by the side of the road which led out from the castle courtyard. Then he took out the scroll, inserted it carefully into the split end of the

(Continued on Page 3)